

A CRAZED GIRL

Seán Doherty

2015

Soprano solo,
SATB div. a cappella

TEXT

A Crazed Girl

That crazed girl improvising her music.
Her poetry, dancing upon the shore,
Her soul in division from itself
Climbing, falling She knew not where,
Hiding amid the cargo of a steamship,
Her knee-cap broken, that girl I declare
A beautiful lofty thing, or a thing
Heroically lost, heroically found.

No matter what disaster occurred
She stood in desperate music wound,
Wound, wound, and she made in her triumph
Where the bales and the baskets lay
No common intelligible sound
But sang, 'O sea-starved, hungry sea.'

William Butler Yeats (1865–1939)

PROGRAMME NOTE

The eponymous 'Crazed Girl' of this poem is the Irish actor, singer, and poet Margot Ruddock (1907–51), who was twenty-seven when she met the sixty-nine year old Yeats in October 1934. Their tumultuous romantic affair and artistic relationship ended when the mentally unstable Ruddock was permanently institutionalised in late 1937. In May 1936, Ruddock arrived unexpectedly in Majorca from Barcelona, to see Yeats. In Barcelona, she had been locked in a room by well-meaning friends. In her escape, she fell from a window and crashed through the roof of a barber's shop, breaking her knee. The next day she fled from the clinic where her knee had been treated and, hoping to return to Yeats in Majorca, hid in the hold of a boat.

Performance Time: *c.* 4 mins

PERFORMANCE NOTES



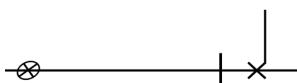
Repeat marks with curved notches indicate independent repetition for duration of wavy line



Triangular notehead: as high/low as possible



Stems without note heads indicate approximate, indeterminate pitch



Crossed noteheads indicate unpitched material

Commissioned by Dr Róisín Blunnie and Laetare Vocal Ensemble

A Crazed Girl

W.B. Yeats (1865–1939)

Seán Doherty

Adagio $\text{J} = 80$

molto rubato e espress.

Soprano Solo

O, _____
O, _____
O, _____
O sea-starved, hun gry

S. Solo

sea, _____
O sea-starved sea,
That crazed girl im-pro-vis-ing her mu - sic. _____ her
That crazed girl im-pro-vis-ing her mu - sic. _____ her
That crazed girl im-pro-vis-ing her mu - sic. _____ her
That crazed girl im-pro-vis-ing her mu - sic. _____ her
That crazed girl im-pro-vis-ing her mu - sic. _____ her

16

O sea-starved, hun-gry sea, O sea-starved sea.
po-et-ry, danc-ing up-on the shore, _____ Her
po-et-ry, danc-ing up-on the shore, _____ Her
po-et-ry, danc-ing up-on the shore, _____ Her
po-et-ry, danc-ing up-on the shore, _____ Her

2
23 Più mosso $\text{♩} = 100$

soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, Her soul in di -
soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, Her soul in di - vi - sion from it -
soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, Her soul in di - vi - sion
soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, Her soul in di -

26

vi - sion from it - self, Her soul in di - vi - sion from it - self,
self, Her soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, Her soul
from it - self, Her soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, Her soul
vi - sion from it - self, Her soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, Her soul

29

(o) (o)
Climb - ing, Climbing, in di - vi - sion from it - self, in di - vi - sion from it - self, in di - vi - vi - sion
in di - vi - sion from it - self, in di - vi - sion from it - self, in di - vi - sion
in di - vi - sion from it - self, in di - vi - sion from it - self, in di - vi - sion
soul in di - vi - sion from it - self, fall - ing, fall -

32 (o) (d.) gliss. molto rit.

She knew not

Her soul in di - vi - sion from it - self She knew not

Her soul in di - vi - sion from it - self She knew not

(o) (d.) gliss. She knew not

35 p sub. f Allegro ♩ = 120 p

where, Hid - ing a - mid the car - go

where, Hid - ing a - mid the car - go

where, Hid - ing a - mid the car - go of a

where, Hid - ing a - mid the car - go of a

38 mf < f

of a steam-ship her knee-cap bro-ken her knee - cap

mf f

of a steam-ship her knee-cap bro-ken her knee-cap

f

steam-ship her knee-cap bro- bro-ken her knee-cap

f

steam-ship her knee-cap bro- bro-ken her knee-cap

4

41

ff *mp* *f*
 bro-, bro-, bro-, bro-, bro-, bro-, bro-, A
ff *mf* *f*
 bro - ken, -ken, -ken, -ken, -ken, I de - clare
ff *f* *f*
 bro-, bro-, bro-, bro-, That girl
ff *mp*
 bro - ken, -ken, -ken, -ken, -ken, -ken, bro - ken, bro - ken, bro - ken, bro - ken,

44

beau - ti - ful lof - ty thing, *gliss.* *p*

p

mp *f* *sfz* *mp*
 He - ro - ic - 'ly lost,
pp *f* *sfz* *mp*
 bro - ken, bro - ken, bro - ken, bro - ken, or a thing He - ro - ic - 'ly lost,

rit.

Tempo primo $\text{♩} = 100$

p lontano
 O sea-starved, hun - gry sea, O

p lontano
 O sea-starved, hun - gry sea

mp express.
 he - ro - ic - 'ly found. *mm*

mp express.
 he - ro - ic - 'ly found. *mm*

52

sea-starved sea,
in des-p'rare mu - sic
— O sea-starved sea,
She stood in des p'reate mu - sic
— No mat-ter what dis-as-ter oc cured She stood

She stood,

57

cresc. poco a poco
wound, wound, wound, wound, wound,
cresc. poco a poco
wound, wound, wound, wound, wound,
in her tri-umph Where the bales and the bas-kets lay No

wound, wound, wound, wound, wound,
and she made Where the bales and the bas-kets lay No

62

mf f
wou(nd) ff rit.
mf f
wou(nd) ff
com-mon in - tell - i - gi - ble sound But sang, 'O
ff
com-mon in - tell - i - gi - ble sound But sang, 'O

Meno mosso ♩ = 90

fff

66

ff **f dim.**

mf

70

Independent repetition at different tempi

Gradual shift to random pitches

Gradual shift to random pitches

Independent repetition at different tempi

As fast as possible

As fast as possible

As fast as possible

78 widely spaced pitches Individual **molto accel.**

widely spaced pitches Individual **molto accel.**

83 *sea!* *fff* *gliss.*

sea! *fff* *gliss.*

fff *sss*

fff *gliss.*

This musical score page contains two systems of music. System one (measures 78) consists of two staves, both in treble clef and common time, with a key signature of one sharp. The first staff has a wavy line and a dynamic marking 'widely spaced pitches'. The second staff also has a wavy line and a dynamic marking 'Individual molto accel.'. System two (measure 83) consists of four staves, three in treble clef and one in bass clef, all in common time with a key signature of one sharp. The first three staves have wavy lines and dynamics 'widely spaced pitches' and 'Individual molto accel.'. The fourth staff has a wavy line and a dynamic 'fff'. There are several vocalizations with arrows pointing to specific notes: 'sea.' with an arrow pointing to a note in the first staff, 'fff' with an arrow pointing to a note in the second staff, 'gliss.' with an arrow pointing to a note in the third staff, and another 'fff' with an arrow pointing to a note in the fourth staff. The bass staff also features a dynamic 'sss' with an arrow pointing to a note. Measures 78 and 83 are separated by a vertical bar line.