

The stage is in darkness while we hear a 1¼-minute electro-acoustic 'prelude' during which the live piano interjects twice. Towards the end of the passage the lighting gradually comes up to reveal 3 characters. The main action follows immediately.

# Night

Derek Ball

**Ghost**  
(High Soprano)

**Cat-like Woman**  
(Alto)

**John**  
(Tenor)  
*(not on stage at the opening)*

**Widower**  
(Baritone)

Flute

Viola

Piano

Electro-acoustic 'tape'

['Tape' starts. You can use a timer for the 2 entries, or simply judge them by ear.]

[Play this at 22 sec from start of tape part]

[Play this at 52 sec from start of tape part]

*f* (hold ad lib →)

*Col Led.*

*Attacca*

↑ Pf 22 sec

↑ Pf 52 sec

**Widower** is seated centre downstage, his back to the audience. He is downcast and slightly agitated. Sitting centre right stage facing him, and facing the audience, is a serene, endlessly patient **Cat-like Woman**, cat-like in her grace, poise and relaxed vigilance rather than her appearance. Her every impulse is to comfort the Widower although she is just a bit too far away to be able to touch him. **Ghost** is a shadowy – but not grotesque – figure to stage left, high up in a gallery or raised area, her back to Widower and to the audience ; she is visible to Widower but not to Cat-like Woman.

2 **Moderato** ♩ = 80  
(in gallery, back to audience)

Gh

CW  
(seated centre stage right,  
facing Widower)

Wid  
(seated centre down-stage,  
back to audience) *mp* 3

I re-al-ise I can't go on like this from day to week, from month to year, re-liv-ing her death,

Fl

Vla

**Moderato** ♩ = 80

PF  
*mp*  
*poco pesante*

tape

The 'tape' tracks, most of them quite short, are cued precisely to the music, using the score. In every case they are simply allowed to run their full course ; no fading in or out is required.

8

Gh

CW

Wid

Fl

Vla

Pf

tape

*mf*

*mp*

*mf*

*mp*

*Ped.*

clos-ing off my life, de - ny - ing, re - fus-ing to let go, de - ny - ing the

(he looks towards the gallery)

Sample Page Only

14

Gh

CW

Wid

Fl

Vla

Pf

tape

*dolcissimo*  
*mp*

*f*

*dolcissimo*  
*mp*

I un-der-stand. You have to grieve, you have to take\_\_\_ time,\_\_\_ time....

truth of my dead wife...

Start TRACK 1 here and let it run its full course

The musical score is written for a track with multiple staves. The staves are labeled Gh, CW, Wid, Fl, Vla, Pf, and tape. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4. The dynamics are marked as *dolcissimo* and *mp*. The lyrics are: "I un-der-stand. You have to grieve, you have to take\_\_\_ time,\_\_\_ time...." and "truth of my dead wife...". A large diagonal watermark "Sample Page Only" is present across the center of the page. At the bottom, there is a section labeled "tape" with a graphic of a tape reel and the instruction "Start TRACK 1 here and let it run its full course".