

The Mechanicals

This piece is inspired by the Mechanicals from Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

Bottom is perhaps the most well-known of the Mechanicals and is a comic character whose head is turned into an ass in the play. Flute is a bellows maker. Quince is the director of the play within the play 'Pyramus and Thisbe' that the Mechanicals put on and often struggles to fit his lines into the correct meter and make rhymes. Snug plays the lion in 'Pyramus and Thisbe'. He is keen to assure the audience that he is not an actual lion in case they get scared. Snout plays the wall that the lovers speak through and has only two lines. Starveling plays the moonshine and is utterly derided by the audience.

The Mechanicals should be played with a brief pause between each movement, except for Snout, which should lead straight into Starveling.

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BOTTOM

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Vivo ♩ = 132

Tuba

mf *giocoso*

f *mf*

f

Or any low note between this C flat and F that is not B flat

mf

f

rit. **A tempo**

pp *ff*

FLUTE

Allegro ♩ = 112

p excitedly
f
p

f
p

f
p

f

p
f
p
f

ff
pp

f
p
f

ff *maestoso*

p

f
ff

The musical score consists of ten staves of music in bass clef, 6/8 time signature. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 112 beats per minute. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *ff* (fortissimo). The score includes various articulations such as slurs, accents, and hairpins. The piece concludes with a 3/4 time signature change.