

MACK THE KNIFE

SATB, accompanied

English Words by MARC BLITZSTEIN
Original German Words by BERT BRECHT
Music by KURT WEILL
Arranged by RUSS ROBINSON

PERFORMANCE NOTES

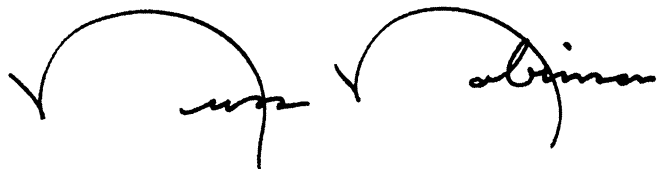
This arrangement of the popular “Mack the Knife” by Kurt Weill is from his musical, *The Three Penny Opera*. The returning theme is catching as are the nonsensical words. The piece consists of six verses:

- Verse 1 - unison chorus
- Verse 2 - guys with ladies backup
- Verse 3 - ladies with guys in different backup
- Verse 4 - ladies with guys backup
- Verse 5 - solo girl, solo guy with choir backup
- Verse 6 - big closing with full choir

The choral director may decide to be creative with the solos and duets in this arrangement. In addition, the guy/girl solo section at measure 68 can be repeated for “scat” solos. For further instruction on scat singing, see “Let’s Sing Some Jazz!” (SV9906) for SATB chorus.

Make sure you do this with a “swing” feel (triple feel) and not a straight-eighths or a rock feel. The jazz piano part will sound fine as written, but if you have a jazz pianist, allow them to ad lib.

I hope this is a fun piece for your choir to sing! Enjoy!



Two handwritten signatures are shown at the bottom of the page. The first signature is a stylized, cursive name that appears to be 'M. Blitzstein'. The second signature is a more fluid, cursive name that appears to be 'R. Robinson'.

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Fast swing feel ♩ = ca. 144 (♩ = $\overset{\sim}{\underset{\sim}{\text{J}}}$ $\overset{\sim}{\text{J}}$)

unison *mf*

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

PIANO

5

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 and Edward and Josephine Davis, as Executors of the ESTATE OF MARC BLITZSTEIN
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shows them_ pearl-y white. Just a

shows them_ pearl-y white. Just a

shows them_ pearl-y white. Just a

shows them_ pearl-y white. Just a

Dm7 G13 Cmaj7 Dm7 Em7 Dm7 Cmaj7

13

jack - knife_ has Mac - heath, dear, and he

jack knife_ has Mac - heath, dear, and he

jack - knife_ has Mac - heath, dear, and he

jack knife_ has Mac - heath, dear, and he

Am9 Em7 Am Dm7

scar - let bil - lows start to spread. _____ Fan - cy

scar - let bil - lows start to spread. _____ Fan - cy

bil - lows, _____ bil - lows start to spread, _____ start to spread, _____ Fan - cy

bil - lows, _____ bil - lows start to spread, _____ start to spread _____ Fan - cy

Dm7 G13 Cmaj7 A7(#5) C# Dm7 G13

gloves though _____ wears Mac - heath, dear, _____ so there's

gloves though _____ wears Mac - heath, dear, _____ so there's

gloves though _____ wears Mac - heath, dear, _____ so there's

gloves though _____ wears Mac - heath, dear, _____ so there's

Am9 Em7 Am Dm7

36

mf

not a _____ trace of red. _____ From a

not a _____ trace of red. _____ From a

not a _____ trace of red. _____

not a _____ trace of red. _____

G13 Cmaj7 C#dim7 Dm7 N.C.

STRA

tug - boat by the riv - er, the ce -

tug boat by the riv - er, the ce -

mp
Ba doo ba da doo bop, ba doo ba da doo bop.

mp
Ba doo ba da doo bop, ba doo ba da doo bop.

C9 Dm7 G9

mf

(h)

ment bag is drop-ping down. The ce -

ment bag is drop-ping down. The ce -

Oh yeah, the bag is drop-ping down. The ce -

Oh yeah, the bag is drop-ping down. The ce -

Dm7 G13 Cmaj7 A7(#5)/C# Dm7 G13

ment's just for the weight, dear. Bet your

ment's just for the weight, dear. Bet your

ment's just for the weight, dear. Bet your

ment's just for the weight, dear. Bet your

Am9 Em7 Am Dm7

52

Mack - ie's _____ back in town. _____

Mack - ie's _____ back in town. _____

Mack - ie's _____ back in town. _____ On the

Mack - ie's _____ back in town. _____ On the

G13 Cmaj7 C#dim7 Dm7

mf Ba doo ba da doo bop, ba doo ba da doo bop.

mf Ba doo ba da doo bop, ba doo ba da doo bop.

side - walk, Sun-day morn - in', lies a

side - walk, Sun-day morn - in', lies a

C⁹ Dm7 G⁹

f

There lies a bod - y ooz-ing life. _____ Some-one's

There lies a bod - y ooz-ing life. _____ Some-one's

bod - y, bod - y ooz-ing life. _____ Some-one's

bod - y, bod - y ooz-ing life. _____ Some-one's

Dm7 G13 Cmaj7 A7(#5)/C# Dm7 G13

sneak - ing _____ 'round the cor - ner. _____ Is that

sneak - ing _____ 'round the cor - ner. _____ Is that

sneak - ing _____ 'round the cor - ner. _____ Is that

sneak - ing _____ 'round the cor - ner. _____ Is that

Am9 Em7 Am Dm7

68

Solo

some - one _____ Mack the Knife? _____ Lou - ie

some - one _____ Mack the Knife? _____

some - one _____ Mack the Knife? _____

some - one _____ Mack the Knife? _____

G13 Cmaj7 C#dim7 Dm7 N.C.

This system contains four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The lyrics are: "some - one _____ Mack the Knife? _____ Lou - ie". The piano accompaniment includes chord markings: G13, Cmaj7, C#dim7, Dm7, and N.C. (No Chord). A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Mil - ler _____ dis - ap - peared, dear, _____ af - ter

Background Vocals

Bop bop bop bop bop bop bop bop

Bop bop bop bop bop bop bop bop

Bop bop bop bop bop bop bop bop

C# G9 Dm7

This system contains four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The first vocal staff has the lyrics: "Mil - ler _____ dis - ap - peared, dear, _____ af - ter". The second and third vocal staves are labeled "Background Vocals" and contain the word "Bop" repeated. The piano accompaniment includes chord markings: C#, G9, and Dm7. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

draw - ing out his cash.

bop bop doo bop.

bop bop doo bop.

bop bop doo bop.

Solo
And Mac -

Dm7 G13 Cmaj7 Dm7 Em7 Dm7 Cmaj7

Ah bop doobop.

Ah bop doobop.

Ah bop doobop.

heath spends like a sail - or. Did your

Em7 Ebm7 Dm7

Did your boy do some-^ting rash? — Ba dot. Su - key

Did your boy do some-thing rash? — Ba dot. Su - key

Did your boy do some-thing rash? — Ba dot. Su - key

boy do ————— some-thing rash? ————— Su - key

G13 Cmaj7 C#dim7 Dm7 N.C.

86

Taw - dry! Jen - ny Div - er! Pol - ly

Taw - dry! Jen - ny Div - er! Pol - ly

Taw - dry! Jen - ny Div - er! Pol - ly

Taw - dry! Jen - ny Div - er! Pol - ly

C6 Eb6 Dm7

100

Mack-ie's, _____ now that Mack-ie's, _____ your Mack-ie's back in _____ town, _____

f

now that Mack-ie's, _____ now that Mack-ie's,

f

now that Mack-ie's, _____ now that Mack-ie's,

f

now that Mack-ie's, _____ now that Mack-ie's,

f

Dm7 G13

back in town! Mack is back!

slight rit. *ff*

you know your Mack - ie's back in town! Mack is back!

ff

you know your Mack - ie's back in town! Mack is back!

ff

you know your Mack - ie's back in town! Mack is back!

ff

you know your Mack - ie's back in town! Mack is back!

Em7 Ebm7 Dm7 G13 C9

slight rit. *ff*

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