

THE BURGHERS OF ROSTOCK

1

Text: from the
International Herald Tribune
(September 18, 1992)

Frederic Rzewski
September, 1992

-180

(Speak:) The bur- gher-s of Ro- stock on thede- ci-sion of the Ger-man go- vern-ment

Ru-ma- ni- an Gyp- sies: *poco rit.*

dolce

(sing:) Af- ter the di- rec- tor of one of Ger- ma-ny's lar- gest

banks said this week that Ger- ma-ny

need-ed bō a-dopt *mp* an im-*mp* mi-
 grati-on quo-ta sys- tem si-mi-lar to that
 in the U-ni-ted States, he
 add-ed, "But I must say,
 if you go to a small Ger-man vil-lage,
 where peo-ple have lived to-ge-ther

p for centu-ries, *doco rit.* and sud-den-ly you see

these peo-ple in their strange cos-tumes,

sit-ting in cir-cles with gar-bage

all a-round them, *f* Well, they

just don't fit

pp

(speak:) *f* And Hans Wi-de-ra,

age fif-ty-six, a me-

chanic, said: (sing:) *mf* "We've pro-ven that we're friend-ly to

cresc. *mf*

for-eigners here, be-cause we've al-ways had Vi-

et-nam-ese here and they were no prob-lem.

Our on-*p* ly prob-lem was the Gyp-sies.
 They stink like a dump. *p* They at-
 tack our Ger-man *f* wo-
 men. I'm a gainst the vi-o-lence, of course,
 but is *pp* n't it pret-ty
 here with- out the Gyp-sies?
cresc.

Go *f* look a- round, then

ask your- self, what would you do *ff* if you

cresc.

lived here? *poco rit.* *dimin.*

(speak.)

p What would

x you do

(very long)

if you lived *pp* here?

This page contains six staves of musical notation. The top two staves are for the voice, with lyrics: 'Go f look a- round, then' (dynamic ff), 'ask your- self, what would you do if you' (dynamic ff), and 'lived here?' (dynamic ff). The third staff is for the piano, with a crescendo instruction. The fourth staff continues the vocal line with '(speak.)' and 'What would'. The fifth staff shows 'x you do' with dynamic markings 'p' and 'pp'. The bottom two staves are for the piano, with sustained notes and dynamic markings 'pp' and 'pp' at the end. Various performance instructions like 'cresc.', 'poco rit.', 'dimin.', and '(very long)' are scattered throughout the vocal line.