

Tum Balalaika

(Yiddish Folksong)

traditional
arr. Craig Galbraith

mp ♩ = 100

S. Shteyt a boch - er u - ner tracht, Tracht un tracht . - tze
Mey - dl, mey - dl, kh'vil bay dir fre - gn, Vos ken vak ak - sn on

A. Shteyt a boch - er u - ner tracht, un tracht a
Mey - dl, mey - dl, kh'vil bay dir fre - ken vak - sn,

T. Shteyt a boch - er u - ner tracht, Tracht un
Mey - dl, mey - dl, kh'vil bay dir fre - gn, Vos ken

B. Shteyt a boch - er u - ner tracht, Tracht un
Mey - dl, mey - dl, kh'vil bay dir fre - gn, Vos ken

rehearsal

8

S. *mf* *f* *p*
nacht. Ve-men tzu ne - me . ar she - men, Ve-men tzu ne - men un nit far she - men.
reg - n Vos ken bren - oyf - hern. Vos ken ben - ken vai-nen on trenn.

A. *mf* *dim.* *p*
gan - tze nacht. en un nit far she - men, Ve-men tzu ne - men un nit far she - men.
vak - sn on reg - en un nit oyf - hern. Vos ken ben - ken vai-nen on trenn.

T. *mp* *f* *dim.* *p*
nacht. ne - men un nit far she - men, Ve-men tzu ne - men un nit far she - men.
reg - n en bren - en un nit oyf - hern. Vos ken ben - ken vai-nen on trenn.

B. *mf* *f* *dim.* *p*
ne - men far she - men, Ve - men un nit far she - men.
bren - en oyf - hern Vos ken vai-nen on trenn.

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

A

17 *mp* *cresc.*

S. Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, tum-ba - la -

A. *mp* *cresc.*
Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la , tum-ba - la -

T. *mp*
Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, tu' am-ba - la, tum-ba - la

B. *mp* *cresc.*
Tum - ba - la - lai tum - ba -

26 *f* *d* 1.

S. lai - ka. Shpiel ba - ' ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka. Shpiel ba - la - lai - ka.

A. *f* *l.*
lai - ka. Sh - lai - ka Shpiel ba - la - lai - ka.

T. *dim.*
lai - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la.

B. *f* *dim.*
lai - ka, tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la - lai - ka.

1.

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

33

rit. *mp*

S. Shpiel ba - la - lai - - - ka.

A. Shpiel ba - la - lai - - - ka.

T. Shpiel ba - la - lai - - - ka.

B. ba - - - la - lai - - - ka.

2.

Shteyt a bocher, uner tracht,
tracht un tracht a gantze nacht.
Vemen tsu nemen un nit far shemen,
vemen tsu nemen un nit far shemen.

lad is thinking, thinking all night
it be wrong, he asks, or maybe right,
dare he declare his love, dare he choose,
would she accept, or will she refuse?

Refrain:

Tumbala, tumbala, tumbalalaika,
Tumbala, tumbala, tumbalalaika
tumbalalaika, shpiel balalaika
tumbalalaika - freylach zol zay

Chorus:

Tumbala, tumbala, tumbalalaika,
Tumbala, tumbala, tumbalalaika
tumbalalaika, play Balalaika,
tumbalalaika - let us be merry.

Meydl, meyd, kh'vel bay d'
Vos kan vaksn, vaksn or
Vos kon brenen un nit
Vos kon benken, veynen?

Maiden, maiden tell me again
What can grow, grow without rain,
What can burn for many years,
What can long and cry without tears?

optional third ver

Narisher boc' arfstu fregn?
A shteyn krebn on regn.
Libeh kerbn nit oyfhern.
A hartz yahren, veynen on treyn.

optional third verse

Silly young lad, why ask again?
It's a stone that can grow, grow without rain,
It's love that can burn for many long years,
A the heart that can yearn and cry without tears.



Craig Galbraith is a native of Saltspring Island, B.C., and studied composition at the University of British Columbia and the University of Toronto. He believes in a style of choral composition that includes familiar and tonal elements mixed with new and unexpected turns.