

Was ist der Mensch?

Erich Kurt Mühsam (1878-1934)

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$\text{♩} = 70$

Was ist der Mensch? Was ist der

Mensch? Ein Ma-gen, zwei Ar - me,

ein klein-es Hirn, und ein gros-ses Mund, und

ei-ne See - le-- daß Gott er - bar - me! Was muß der Mensch?

ff

mp

15

Muß schlaf - fen und den - ken, muß es - sen und feil - schen

simile

19

und Kar - ren len - ken, muß

23

wu - chern mit sein - em hal - be Pfund. Was muß der

26

Mensch? Was ist der Mensch?

f *ff*

29

Was muß der Mensch? ————— Muß be - ten und lie -

Measures 29-31: The vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody starts on a whole note, followed by a half note, and then a quarter note. The piano accompaniment features a complex texture with sixteenth-note runs in both hands, often marked with a '6' for a sixteenth-note figure. The music is in a 3/4 time signature.

32

- ben ————— und flu - chen ————— und has - sen, —

Measures 32-34: The vocal line continues with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The piano accompaniment maintains the sixteenth-note texture, with some chords in the right hand. The music is in a 3/4 time signature.

35

und ————— has - sen, ————— muß ————— hof - fen,

Measures 35-38: The vocal line continues with a treble clef. The melody is mostly quarter notes. The piano accompaniment features sixteenth-note runs and chords. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present in measure 37. The music is in a 3/4 time signature.

39

und muß sein Glück ————— ver - pas - sen. ————— und lei - den —

Measures 39-42: The vocal line continues with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter notes. The piano accompaniment features sixteenth-note runs and chords. The music is in a 3/4 time signature.

44

— wie ein ge-schund-ner Hund. ...und lei - den und lei - den_

48

wie ein_ ge - schund - ner Hund. ...und lei-den wie ein ge-schund - ner

52

Hund. _____ Was muß der Mensch?_

55

58

ritardando al fine

ff

circa 3' 35"