

Dr. Death

Dedicated to master bassoon sound artist
Devon Yasamune Toyotomi

David Avshalomov

Con moto, serio

♩ = 122

Bassoon

f *f sempre* *p* *p* *p* *p*

7 *f top line dim. . . .* *cantabile, pomposo*
p *mf* *f* *p*

16 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*
p *p*

25 *f* *mf* *mf*
p *p*

35 *mf* *p* *pp*
mf *f*

43 *p* *mp* *f*
3

52 *stentato* *Poco Ritenuto*
pp *f* *f* *sfz*

NOTE: This free-form aria/march is a study in projecting or suggesting, with a single instrument, two real parts/voices: the upper melody and the lower accompaniment notes and figures. The contrast of ranges between the two voices establishes different tone colors for each, which the performer should emphasize, almost as though the piece were being performed by 2 bassoonists with different approaches to tone. The title suggests a grim affect. The manner to be projected is the stilted formality of a poem like Emily Dickinson's "Because I Could Not Stop for Death (He Kindly Stopped for Me)." The protagonist is politely announcing he has arrived to harvest someone. (The echo of Prokofiev's Grandpapa is deliberate.)