

121. "On parem olla halb ..."

'Tis better to be vile...

Häälele ja klaverile / for Voice and Piano

Lepo Sumera (1950-2000)

www.edition49.de/composers/l_sumera

Solo

ff

'Tis bet - ter to be vile, than

Allegro affettuoso ♩ = 92-96

Piano

ff

1) *m.d.*

f

3

3

ff

1) ad lib., quasi improvvisare. Bassi e Tema sempre preciso

vile es-teemed, when not to be re-ceives re -

1)

1)

proach of be - ing, and the just plea - sure lost, which

1)

1)

this ge - ne - ral e - vil they main - tain, all men are

bad, and in their ba - dness reign.

'Tis bet-ter to be vile, than vile esteemed,
when not to be receives reproach of being,
and the just pleasure lost, which is so deemed,
not by our feeling, but by others' see-ing.

For why should others' false adulterate eyes
give salutation to my sportive blood?
Or on my frailties why are frailer spies,
which in their wills count bad what I think good?

No; - I am that I am; and they that level
at my abuses, reckon up their own:
I may be straight, though they themselves be bevel;
By their rank thoughts my deeds must not be shown;

Un-less this general evil they maintain,
all men are bad, and in their badness reign.

On parem olla halb kui halvaks peetud
ja kergem teada ennast eksivat
kui saada teiste kohtu ette veetud,
süüks arvata, kuid sündimata patt.

Sest teiste sohipilgud mind ei paita,
kui välja lööb mu vere mänglev uhk!
Mis hea näib mulle, seda kurjaks laita
võib iga mitmekordselt kurjem nuhk.

Et, olen mis ma olen, nende reeglid
ei kõlba minu süüde mõõdupuuks:
ei jää ju raisus mõtte kõverpeeglid
mu sirgust kujundades loomutruuks!

See keelepeks peab üldist pahet silmas,
et kurjal võim on kurjade maailmas.