

Langston's Lot

I. I've Known Rivers

Langston Hughes*

Doug McConnell

Slowly, freely

Alto Saxophone

Tenor

Piano

p *mf*

I've known rivers:

Warm, Steady ♩ = 92-96
(slap-tongue)

mp (lightly, like a drum) *mp* (warm, lyric throughout)

I've

mp

** Muted strings:

** (MUTED STRINGS:) Place the palm of the right hand over the appropriate piano strings of the upper staff to create a muted, drum-like effect; the pitches are sounded with the left hand playing on the piano keyboard. Depending on the inner construction of the piano, a towel may be effective where a hand cannot reach. Adjust to the instrument as needed. The pitches indicated in the lower staff of the piano should not be muted. Leave the sustain pedal down throughout this section.

6 *p*

8 known riv - - - ers An -

6 *mp (quiet, steady, like a drum)*

9

8 cient as the world and old - er

9 *mp*

12

8 than the flow of hu-man blood

12

Musical score for measures 15-17. The system includes a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a bass line. The vocal line starts at measure 15 with a piano (*p*) dynamic and moves to mezzo-piano (*mp*) at measure 16. The lyrics are "in hu-man veins...". The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with half notes and quarter notes.

Musical score for measures 18-20. The system includes a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a bass line. The vocal line starts at measure 18 with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The lyrics are "My soul has grown deep...". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The bass line remains consistent with the previous system.

Musical score for measures 21-23. The system includes a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a bass line. The vocal line starts at measure 21 with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The lyrics are "like the riv-ers...". The piano accompaniment and bass line continue with the established patterns. The system concludes with a 5/4 time signature change.

ETC.

LATER EXCERPT.....

24

8 Abe - Lin - coln went down to New Or - leans,

24 *mf* *f* *ff*

** (Muted strings:) As before, try less/no pedal for this next section.

26

8 *p* (tenderly, freely) and I've seen, I've seen

26 *p* (warmly: legato)

Tenderly ♩ = 80-84

29 *p* (floating) *mp*

8 its mud - dy bos - um turn all gold - ren 3

29

33 *ritard.*
pp
mp *ritard.*
 in the sun - set
p (gently) *ritard.*
 3

Slowly, freely
 37
p (freely) *mf*
Slowly, freely
 I've known riv - - - ers:
 8va

Warm, Steady ♩ = 92-96
 40 *p (lightly, like a drum)* *mp*
Warm, Steady ♩ = 92-96
mp

ETC.