

Adam Spry

Have You Heard the News?

December 2024

Piano Duo

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Performers should understand the piece expects a certain level of theatrics. The two pianists performing the piece should be comfortable and confident with speaking in performance, and the performers in question should be able to project. If necessary and applicable, rudimentary electronic amplification of both voices is acceptable.

PROGRAMME NOTES

Have You Heard the News? is a piano duo written for the PLUG Festival 2025. The piece is conceptualised around two characters conversing about various news headlines with each other, with each headline being more ridiculous than the last. Inspired by children's prose like Dr Seuss, the text, written by the composer, rhymes and alliterates with an irregular rhythm, and lays the foundation for the rhythmic and metrical language of the piece. The titular phrase "have you heard the news?" was the both the starting point for the project and the foundation of the structure for the text. It begins most sections and serves as the instigator of the discourse between the two characters. This design was where the project was conceived, trying to find different ways for the two characters to pose that question to the other. From there, the text was developed and completed by creating all the wacky and ludicrous headlines found within the piece.

Duration: 4'

Have You Heard the News?

Piano Duo

Adam Spry

Tempo: $\text{♩} = 138$

Voice 1
Have you heard the news? A

Piano 1
senza ped. sempre
pp

Voice 2
No, I have-n't heard the news.

Piano 2
senza ped. sempre
pp

6

Vo. 1
big blue bridge was found in a fridge.

Pno. 1
pp

Vo. 2
Have you heard the news?

Pno. 2
mp

11

Vo. 1

No, I have-n't heard the news.

Pno. 1

p

Vo. 2

a pine-a-pple had a scra-pple

Pno. 2

p

15

Vo. 1

più mosso

rall.

Pno. 1

mf

Vo. 2

and a ba-ttle with a boat-tailed grackle

Pno. 2

mf

20 (rall.) ————— **A** a tempo

Vo. 1

Have you heard the news?

Pno. 1

p

Vo. 2

No.

Pno. 2

mp

24

Vo. 1

They found a large Ro-man lane in a la-dies' brain.

accel.

Pno. 1

mp

Vo. 2

Have you heard the news?

Pno. 2

mp *mf*

28 **(accel.)**

Vo. 1
No, I have not heard the news.

Pno. 1

Vo. 2
Go - ing to Gainsborough gives you Gout!

Pno. 2
mf

30 **più mosso**

Vo. 1

Pno. 1
mf

Vo. 2

Pno. 2
mf

33 **B** a tempo

Vo. 1 4/4 Have you heard the news?

Pno. 1 *p* *mf*

Vo. 2 4/4 I

Pno. 2 *p*

35 **accel.**

Vo. 1 7/8 Well, a well - worn well was

Pno. 1

Vo. 2 7/8 might have heard the news, why should you ask?

Pno. 2 *p* *cresc.*

38 (accel.)

Vo. 1

well toweld a we-ddle of we-ller that dwell in a ce-llar that, while a

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

(cresc.)

42 (accel.)

Vo. 1

well - worn well wel-ded in his we-lies, the se-ller of the ce-llar sold

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

(cresc.)

45 **(accel.)** sol - der wire to his wea-thered swea-tered swan. **rall.**

Pno. 1 **f**

Pno. 2 **(cresc.)** **f**

47 **C** **a tempo** Per-chance, why do you

Pno. 1 **mf**

Vo. 2 Mmm, ve - ry in - teres-ting, have you heard the news?

Pno. 2 **p**

50

Vo. 1

so ask if I have or have not heard the news?

molto accel.

Pno. 1

mf cresc.

Vo. 2

it is on - ly be-cause I

Pno. 2

53

Vo. 1

(molto accel.)

Pno. 1

(cresc.)

Vo. 2

heard an i-ckle mi-ckle mouse moved a house with his hip then took a trip to Load,

Pno. 2

56 **(molto accel.)**

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

(cresc.)

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

af - ter which he held a whole hat for the high

59 **(molto accel.)**

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

(cresc.)

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

bred cat which boshed his head and noshed him dead!

61 **molto più mosso**

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

63

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

The musical score is for two voices and two pianos. It begins at measure 61 with the tempo marking 'molto più mosso'. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is for two voices (Vo. 1, Vo. 2) and two pianos (Pno. 1, Pno. 2). Measures 61-63 are shown. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is diagonally across the page.

65 **D**

Vo. 1 *molto rall.*
Have you heard the news?

Pno. 1

Vo. 2
Well fran - kly I can't re - mem - ber

Pno. 2

67 *(molto rall.)*

Vo. 1
With all the respect that is due, how do you
not remember if you've heard the news or not?

Pno. 1

Vo. 2
if I've heard the news or not

Pno. 2

69 **a tempo**

Vo. 1

6/4 7/8 5/8

Whilst I watched the te-lly, a be-lly of smelly je-lly fishsquished my

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

6/4 7/8 5/8

Pno. 2

72

Vo. 1

pe - tri dish

3/4 5/8

Pno. 1

p *mp*

Vo. 2

3/4 5/8

well that is - n't so much i - de - al, is it

Pno. 2

PREVIEW

75

Vo. 1

no, not rea-ly. So what is on thenews? Oh

Pno. 1

mp

Vo. 2

John-a-than ran a mar-a-thon

Pno. 2

mp *p* *f*

78

Vo. 1

good for him What's that

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Then read some A - ga - thon

Pno. 2

b *tr*

81

Vo. 1

13/8

And

6/8

where does he keep all them?

4/4

Pno. 1

mf

Vo. 2

13/8

Then bought fif - ty one car - i - llons on A - ma - zon

6/8

4/4

Pno. 2

tr

83

più mosso

Vo. 1

4/4

2/4

Pno. 1

f

Vo. 2

4/4

In his

ca - rry on.

2/4

Pno. 2

f

87

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

91

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

E rit.

have you heard the

tr *tr* *tr*

96 **meno mosso**

Vo. 1
tell me the news | Went to where?

Pno. 1
p *cresc.*

Vo. 2
news A man named Weir went to Ware Ware, it's

Pno. 2
f dim.

98

Vo. 1
What? Where? What?

Pno. 1
(cresc.)

Vo. 2
next to Watt Yes, next to Ware Yes, that's his name, he went to Ware Yes, that's right, it's

Pno. 2
(dim.) 8

100

Vo. 1

You're te - lling me Weir went to Ware that's

Pno. 1

(cresc.)

Vo. 2

next to Ware

Pno. 2

(dim.)

101

Vo. 1

next to Watt What did he wear? **accel.**

Pno. 1

(cresc.) **f** **mp**

Vo. 2

Yes, that's right. Se - ve - ral pairs of socks.

Pno. 2

p

103 **F** *più mosso*

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

105

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

107

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

109

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

ff

sub. mf

ff

sub. mf

This musical score page contains measures 107 through 110. It is arranged in four systems, each with two staves: two vocal staves (Vo. 1 and Vo. 2) and two piano staves (Pno. 1 and Pno. 2). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). In measure 107, the vocal parts have whole rests, while the piano parts play chords and moving lines. Measure 108 continues the piano accompaniment. Measure 109 features a dynamic change from *ff* (fortissimo) to *sub. mf* (subito mezzo-forte) for both piano parts. Measure 110 concludes the system with sustained chords in the piano parts and vocal entries marked with accents.

111

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

114

G accel.

Vo. 1

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

What is on the news?

I do must ask what is on the news?

mp

116 (accel.)

Vo. 1

I might have heard the news,

Pno. 1

f *mp*

Vo. 2

Yes, what is on the news, have you heard the news?

Pno. 2

PREVIEW

119 (accel.)

Vo. 1

have you heard the news?

Pno. 1

f

Vo. 2

No, I have not, which is why I ask

Pno. 2

PREVIEW

121 (accel.)

Vo. 1

Ask what is on the news?

Pno. 1

f *mf*

Vo. 2

Yes, what is on the news? Have you heard the news?

Pno. 2

mp

124 **molto meno mosso** **accel.** **H** **a tempo**

Vo. 1

Have you heard the news?

Pno. 1

p *mp*

Vo. 2

Yes, I have, a cir-cus dan-cer met with a

Pno. 2

p

127

Vo. 1

6/8 A | 4/4 well off fe - lla drank some ste - lla | 3/4

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

6/8 pran - cer in Prague | 4/4 | 3/4

Pno. 2

mp

129

Vo. 1

3/4 then stole an um - bre - lla | 2/4 | 12/8

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

3/4 | 2/4 two tree trunks fell on | 12/8

Pno. 2

PREVIEW

131

Vo. 1

12/8

three monks were spo - tted and do - tted a - bout and a -

Pno. 1

12/8

Pno. 2

12/8

mf

132

Vo. 1

7/8

- round a - llo-tted a slot on

Pno. 1

7/8

mf

Vo. 2

7/8

the news yes-ter-day o - ffi-cia-lly ran out of

Pno. 2

7/8

135

Vo. 1

stor - ies of buil - dings form in - terr - og - at - ory fi - llings for

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Pno. 2

137

Vo. 1

Keith found to hit a door

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Teeth found to make you sore

Pno. 2

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for two piano parts and two vocal parts. The score is divided into two systems. The first system starts at measure 135 and the second at measure 137. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal parts (Vo. 1 and Vo. 2) have lyrics. The piano parts (Pno. 1 and Pno. 2) provide accompaniment. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is diagonally across the page.

139

Vo. 1

Shoul - d've sat on a chair in- stead

Pno. 1

f

Vo. 2

Hum - pty dum - pty fell on his head

Pno. 2

f

141

Vo. 1

Yes, I have

Pno. 1

Vo. 2

Have you heard the news? Oh, alright then

Pno. 2