

Contents

Preface 15

PROLOGUES

The Bridgetower 19

Prologue of the Rambling Sort 21

I

THE PRODIGY

(Re)Naissance 27

Capriccio 29

Friedrich Augustus Bridgetower Discovers the Purposes of Fatherhood 30

Lines Whispered to a Pillow 32

Recollection, Preempted 33

Paris, Panting 36

What Doesn't Happen 37

Windsor 39

Mrs. Papendiek's Diary (1) 41

The Marine Pavilion, Brighthelmston 43

The Wardrobe Lesson 45

Mrs. Papendiek's Diary (2) 47

The Seaside Concerts 49

Disappearance 50

II

BREAD & BUTTER, TURBANS & CHINOISERIE

Hear Ye! 55

The Lesson: Adagio 57

Black Pearl 59

Ode to the Moon 60

Janissary Rap 61

Concert at Hanover Square 63

Pulling the Organ Stops 65

Black Billy Waters, at His Pitch 67

Haydn, Overheard 69

Mrs. Papendiek's Diary (3) 71

The Dressing 72

The African Prince Sings Songs of Love 74

Abandoned, Again 75

Mrs. Papendiek's Diary (4) 76

The Transaction 78

The Undressing 80

Ode on a Negress Head Clock, with Eight Tunes 81

Intermezzo 84

Tafelmusik (1) 85

Brothers in Spring 86

The Salomon Concerts 88

Haydn Leaves London 90

Seduction Against Exterior Pilaster, Waning Gibbous 92

Pretty Boy 94

New Century Aubade 96

III

STURM UND DRANG

- The Petition 101
To the Continent 102
Old World Lullaby 103
Floating Requiem 104
Ach, Wien 106
Ludwig van Beethoven's Return to Vienna 107
First Contact 109
Vienna Spring 111
Polgreen, Sight-Reading 113
Beethoven Summons His Copyist 115
Augarten, 7 AM 116
The Performer 119
-

VOLKSTHEATER:

A SHORT PLAY FOR THE COMMON MAN

- Georgie Porgie, or A Moor in Vienna* 125
-

IV

"ALL IS ASHES"

- Tail Tucked 143
Rain 145
Esterháza, Prodigal 146
Home Again 149
Eroica 151
Tafelmusik (2) 153

The Countess Shares Confidences over <i>Karneval</i> Chocolate	155
<i>Andante con Variazioni</i>	157
Haydn Serenades the Napoleonic Honor Guard	160
The Regency Fete	162
Cambridge, Great St. Mary's Church	164
Panopticon	165
The Last Frost Fair	167

V

NOMADIA

Half-Life	173
<i>Life in London</i> , Now Playing at the Adelphi	174
Moor with Emeralds	176
Vanities	178
Haydn's Head	179
Birthday Stroll on the Pall Mall	185
Staffordshire Figurine, 1825	187
Nomadia	189
Self-Eulogy	195
#8 Victory Cottages, Peckham, 1860	196
The Witness	197

EPILOGUES

The Queen's Wardrobe Keeper	201
All That Jazz	202
The Composer's Coda	203
Haydn's Skull	204
The Name Game	206

Instrumental 207
The End, with MapQuest 208

Notes 211

A Chronology 217

Acknowledgments 227

Biographical Note 231