

# **A Study in E(arnest)**

*Algernon's opening*

**Nick Hwang**

**2009**

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## Algernon's opening

For Steven Bailey and LSU Theatre's production of The Importance of being Earnest

### Act 1

SCENE – *Morning-room in Algernon's flat in Half-Moon Street. The room is luxuriously and artistically furnished. The sound of a piano is heard in the adjoining room.*

*[Lane is arranging afternoon tea on the table, and after the music has ceased, Algernon enters.]*

**Algernon:** Did you hear what I was playing, Lane?

**Lane:** I didn't think it polite to listen, sir.

**Algernon:** I'm sorry for that, for your sake. I don't play accurately – any one can play accurately – but I play with wonderful expression. As far as the piano is concerned, sentiment is my forte. I keep science for Life.

### Performance Notes:

This is performed by Algernon with an on-stage piano.

No accidentals carry beyond the barline and do not cross registers. A few courtesy accidentals have been added, but some naturals may be missing.

This piece is to be played as dramatically as possible with the performer stretching and 'warming up' his hands, arms and legs prior to playing. The tempo is not strict, allowing the performer to slow and speed up, taking breaks, repeating sections, and switching registers to taste.

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*Sempre Rubato* (♩ = 120)

Piano

*f* *p*

*Ped.* *Ped.* *simile*

Pno.

*ff* *p*

Pno.

*mp* *sfz* *mp*

Pno.

*mf*

*more and more indulgent  
and increasing in tempo*

Pno.

*f* *p*

26

Pno.

*mf* *ff* *p* *mp* *cresc.*

*f*

31

Pno.

*mf*

36

Pno.

*f* *cresc.*

40

Pno.

*tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

*3*

*Ped.*

45

Pno.

*3* *3* *3* *3*

