



Analysis of Act II

For each movement, give a short description of what happens in the drama and type of movement it is (recitative, aria, etc.), and write a number of short bullet points picking out particularly noteworthy aspects of the music. In particular, consider aspects of melody, harmony, structure, rhythm, word painting and accompaniment.

EXAMPLE (mark these points into your score):

Prelude for the witches; Wayward sisters

The witches' cave. The sorceress summons her minions, who ask how they can help.

- Instrumental ritornello, followed by accompanied recitative.
- F minor – witches' key – key of horror.
- Dotted rhythms and lombardic rhythms (e.g. violin I, bar 5) give unsettled, almost violent mood.
- Sorceress sings in recitative style, but accompanied.
- Descending sixth onto major seventh – bar 20 – mysterious.
- “Appear” - ascending fourths/fifths – fanfare like summons.
- Move to Bb major (sub-dominant) to herald the entrance of the witches in bar 34.

Now, over to you...

Act II is available as a Windows Media Player playlist at:

O:/Academic Departments/Music/PAS/U6/Dido/Act2.wpl

This work is to be completed ready for next week's lesson (Monday 30th November, 8.50am)