

Moritz Eggert (*1965)

THE SNAIL [2004]

A German singing and dancing theatre piece by Hans Neuenfels based on a poem by Federico García Lorca
German

full eve

Arthur	bass
Maria	alto
Theis sons: Manfred.	tenor
Edgar	baritone
Helga, Manfred's girlfriend	soprano
Inge, Edgar's girlfriend	mezzo soprano
Hermann, an old shepherd	speaking role
Irmgard.	speaking role
Florian	speaking role
Herbert, a young loner.	speaking role

4 figures, silent roles, 6 dancers, mixed choir

3(picc, alto fl).recorder (Garklein, sopranino, soprano, alto, tenor, bass).3(cor anglais).3(bass clar).tenor sax.3(db bn) – 4.4.3(2 tenor trbn, bass trbn).1 – timp (4). 4 perc (I: football siren, conga, rattle, rain maker, 5 woodbl, hi-hat, large cym, small tam-t, plate bell, glsp, marimba, thunder sheet, wind machine, strips of tape to take off* – II: 2 timbales, whip, flex, 4 temple bl, el.doorbell, guiro, hammer, tamb, side dr**, talking drum, large tam-t, vibr, bellows, watering can with bowl, large susp.metal spiral, slime noise*, balloons*, record player* – III: shell chimes, clav, el.doorbell, crank ratchet, mouth siren, tabla or roto-tom, stand-tom, side dr, Chinese cym, small gong, chimes, drilling machine [and small board], sand in tamb, sandpaper* – IV: tgl, frog snapper, vibra-slap, lotus fl, maracas, jingle-bells, bamboo pendulum rattle, small mouth siren, 4 wood bl, bongos, stand-tom, 4 tom-t, bass dr, large gong, squeaking rubber ducky, balloons, bin). 2 el.guit. bass guit. harp. piano/keyboard, cel/hpd. acc. strings (12/10/8/6/4), tape recordings

*amplified

** together with Perc. II

Small version: 2(picc).2.2(bass clar).2(db bn) – 3.2.2.1 – timp. 2 perc (I: tgl, claves, shell chimes, wood bl, tom-t, side dr, large tam-t, talking drum, ratchet, bongos, glsp, vibr, thunder sheet, large susp.metal spiral, rain maker, bellows, sandpaper, balloons, strips of tape, squeaking rubber ducky, little bin with pebbles, rattle, lotos fl, football siren – II: tgl, flex, 3 tom-t, guiro, tamb, hammer, large gong, maracas, ratchet, temple bl, small gong, Chinese cym, balloons, mouth siren, frog snapper, roto-tom, bamboo pendulum rattle, jingle bells, lapping in water bucket). harp. el.guit. bass guit. 2 pianos, strings (6/6/4/3/2)

There were once two brothers from a very rich family, the unscrupulous Edgar and the sensitive Manfred, who is rejected by the parents for being a loser. They place all their hopes in Edgar, who, however, usurps the their fortune, and, finally, throws them out of the villa and enjoys a successful political career. Manfred joins the "snail," the reject.

At a "liberal ball" the sexes intermingle and the identities are temporarily dissolved. In the merciless struggle for power, Arthur and Maria kill their son Edgar and his girlfriend. The retuning Manfred takes deadly revenge on his parents – the "snails" are victorious.