Peter Schindler Circus Allegro

A Circus Musical for all kids under 100

Story and Lyrics: Babette Dieterich and Peter Schindler Translation: Maria Slowinska

Version 1:

1–2 voice choir, soloists as actors wind quintet (flute, clarinet, trumpet, alto saxophone, trombone) string orchestra (2 violins, viola/violin 3, violoncello) rhythm section (piano, bass, drums)

Version 2:

1–2 voice choir, soloists as actors piano (bass and drums ad lib.)

Piano score

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Cover art: Erika Schindler

Esteemed Audience,

Welcome, welcome! Step into the magic ring of the circus! The colorful, sparkling world of Circus Allegro awaits you. Renowned artists and a brilliant circus orchestra will enchant you with fiery rhythms and exceptional tricks. Enjoy the smell of sawdust and popcorn! Experience thrilling animal acts! Be witness to some of the best performances the circus world has to offer!

I have travelled across the world to bring you a fantastic troupe of world-class artists from all around the globe. Harry Houdini, Grizzly Grozzlicek and the one and only Graciosa are sensational! Jack the Knife and Fakir Fatalo will send shivers down your spine. And you won't believe your eyes when you see Jerri the Juggler!

You think I am exaggerating? Believe me, absolutely not! Step right in and see for yourself! Circus Allegro will make you dream and laugh! Prepare to be amazed!

Yes, excellent, excellent, come closer, take a seat, right here in the front row, that's perfect, just perfect. Maestro, are you ready? Wonderful! Then it's time for me to say: Ladies and Gentlemen, get ready for CIRCUS ALLEGRO! On with the show!

Yours truly, Ricardo Grande, Ringmaster

All songs are composed for one voice and can be performed with only piano accompaniment. The second voice is optional. The tempos are only suggestions. Please choose the tempo of every song individually to ensure that the performers are able to articulate the lyrics well. The pitch of the songs is variable. Should you find certain songs to be too high or too low, please transpose them into a key more comfortable for your singers. The piano accompaniment is deliberately simple in order to allow even less experienced pianists to play it. Should you have the option of adding a double bass (or electric bass) and drums, it would be advisable to coordinate the pianist's left hand with the bass in order to avoid the doubling of registers. In the orchestra version, the piano can take breaks from time to time or punctuate the music with chords intermittently.

The orchestra score of Circus Allegro is arranged for: Wind quintet (flute, clarinet, trumpet, alto saxophone, trombone) String quartet (2 violins, viola/violin 3, violoncello) Rhythm section (piano, bass, drums)

Wind quintet, string quartet and rhythm section have been combined in the main score. Also, all the voices have been written in C in order to facilitate reading.

The wind section should be played with only one player per part. The string section can be extended to as many players as desired.

The songs in this musical cover a range of different musical styles. The band should be versed in all styles and always attempt to adapt their volume to the singers.

And now go on, step right into the circus tent! Ringmaster Ricardo Grande awaits you!

Warmly,

Your Peter Schindler

www.peter-schindler.de

Berlin/London, March 2013 Translation: Maria Slowinska

Summary

Life is not easy for ringmaster Ricardo Grande. First, his assistant Bella Stella runs away. Then bear trainer Grozzlicek announces that the bear won't perform. August the Clown, the ringmaster's stand-in assistant, is constantly "standing in" the way. And in the end, even the tiger seems to have disappeared! But even though August might just be a silly clown, he always has the perfect idea to save the day. And so the audience gets to experience a sensational circus show – in spite (or maybe because) of all the slip-ups. Circus Allegro will present an elephant who dances the boogie, a ventriloquist giraffe, wild horses, a fakir, a juggler, a tightrope dancer, a knife thrower and, of course, a fire breather. Finally, when the joint is jumping, the tiger and Bella Stella turn up. The audience goes absolutely wild. And eventually, even ringmaster Ricardo Grande is delighted.

Location

Circus Allegro is performing in a circus tent in the main square of a town. The circus ring is located center stage. Artists and animals enter from the back or the side of the stage. The ring is visually separated from the rest of the stage. The "Chorus of Spectators" sit around the ring, i.e., on the sides and/or around the back of the stage. The actual audience completes the circle. Scene-changes should be kept short if needed at all. The numbers should be played continuously and interrupted only by interjections from the moderators, dialogs and transitions.

Performance

In many of the songs, the "Chorus of Spectators" sit while the circus performers or circus animals perform their tricks. Not all of the tricks and feats have to actually be performed. The joy of playing, costumes, props, striking stage lighting and theatrical effects will also do the trick. Jack the Knife's number can also be performed as mime and without knives. The tightrope dancer can also present her skills on a balance beam or on a rope that lies on the floor. There is also the option of using video projections to go with the song. Another possibility is to use shadow play, for example in the tightrope dancer's songs or for the fakir's number - either with real performers or with paper figurines, which can levitate weightlessly or dance on even the sharpest nails. Of course, Jerri the Juggler can be played by somebody who can juggle. However, the juggler does not need to juggle seven balls at once, three will also be enough. Altogether, there are no rules as to how the circus numbers should be performed. No matter whether you choose real elephants or tiny plastic elephants - make it colorful, theatrical, lively ... make it Allegro!

Important note: This is a musical. The music should support the circus numbers without taking center stage. Ideally, music and performance become one.

Content and Characters

Note: Most of the characters can be either male or female. For the sake of simplicity, the music score suggests one version of a gender and name for the character. However, this is purely a choice of casting; almost every character can be of either gender. Where this is not possible, this is purely due to the structure of the lyrics. In the following overview of characters, names for both genders are suggested. Names and pronouns should be adapted accordingly in the songs and dialogs.

Ringmaster Ricardo Grande (Ringmistress Ricarda Grande for female role) The Grande family is one of the oldest circus dynasties of the world. Founded in 1860 by Alberto Grande, Circus Allegro has entertained millions of spectators worldwide. Ringmaster Ricardo Grande is the great-great-grandson of the founder.

August the Clown

August pretends to be a clumsy clown, but in reality he is quite clever. He even stands in for the ringmaster when he is temporarily tied up in urgent matters. And August does a very good job at that!

Genghis Khan, the Circus Horse

The circus horse Genghis Khan and his racy brothers are beautiful horses! The ringmaster even boasts that they have come straight from Mongolia. August, however, claims that they are just old nags from the horse market nearby ...

Fakir Fatalo (Fakir Fatala for female role)

Fakir Fatalo from the Indian state of Rajastan loves everything sharp, edgy and prickly. He likes to take his afternoon nap on his bed of nails. (Note: When this part is played by a female performer, the rhyme "ohoooo ... Fatalo" in the song should be changed to "ahaaaa ... Fatala".)

Count of Cosimo (Countess of Cosimo for female role)

The Count of Cosimo feeds Blub-Blub, the ventriloquist giraffe, with cabbage, beans and peas, to make her talk even louder.

Grizzly Grozzlicek (Grizzelda Grozzlicek for female role)

Grizzly Grozzlicek is the bear trainer and has a really tough job. Bruno the Bear has been bitten by a mouse and the shock made him jump out of his skin. Now he is lying in his cage all scared and won't crawl back into his fur, let alone perform his number ...

Eventually, **Bruno the Bear** makes his entrance after all. There are rumors, though, that it's not Bruno himself who crawled into the fur but rather ... Ricardo Grande!

Graciosa

Graciosa, the tightrope dancer, is a weightless ballerina high up in the air.

Jack the Knife

Knife thrower Jack the Knife and his wife, Lady Ava, mesmerize the audience with their sharp, flying daggers.

Signor Volcano (Madame Volcano) and **Signorina Flamma** (Signorino Fuoco) The fire breather Signor Volcano and his assistant Signorina Flamma are such a hot duo that even flaming dragons don't stand a chance.

Merlino (Merlina)

Merlino is a little boy with impressive lungs. He can blow the biggest soap bubbles, which take the audience away on a colorful journey.

Doctor Magic (male or female)

Doctor Magic confuses his magic spells. Thus, Madame Suleika ends up having tiger claws and piggy ears. The magician's assistants stand by help-lessly.

Jerri the Juggler (male or female)

Jerri the Juggler is a world-class artist. He captivates the audience and takes their breath away with his juggling tricks. Simply incredible!

Harry Houdini (Mary Houdini)

Harry Houdini, the most famous escape artist of all times, wiggles out of every straitjacket. There's nothing that can restrain this man!

Chico the Elephant

He is a more elegant dancer than Fred Astaire and Michael Jackson put together!

Bella Stella (Bellino) and the Tiger

But where is the tiger? He went to the ice-cream parlor! Tigers, too, like to eat ice cream from time to time. Fortunately, the ringmaster's assistant Bella Stella knows this, too. And so here is yet another brand new attraction of Circus Allegro!

Chorus of Spectators

The chorus gets the atmosphere going in the tent. The cheerful spectators marvel at the incredible performance they are witnessing. They also get to sing a lot.

Overture

(Piano version)

The "Chorus of Spectators" come on stage during the overture and take their seats, either at the sides of the stage or at the back of the stage, facing the real audience. During the entire show, the "Chorus of Spectators" act like regular members of the audience, reacting to the different attractions on stage with surprise, applause, laughter, etc.







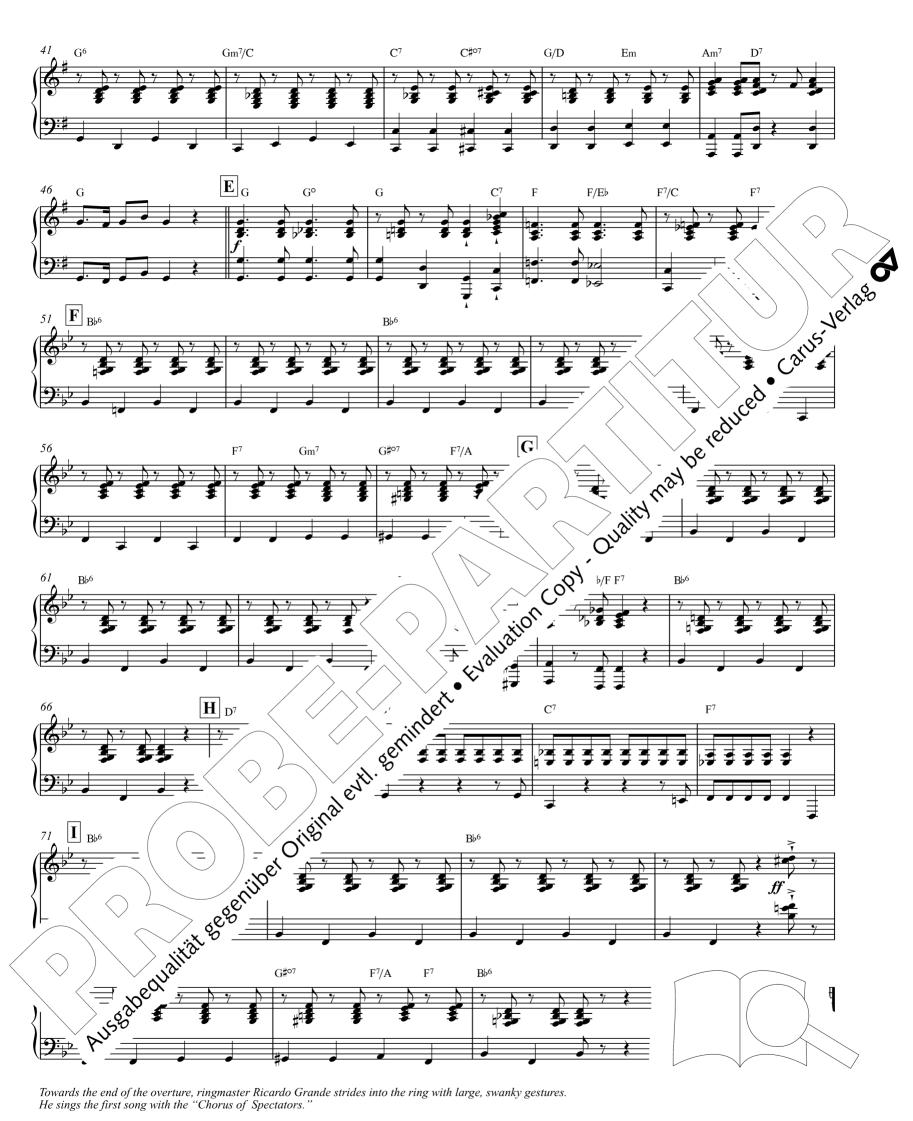
Towards the end of the overture, ringmaster Ricardo Grande strides into the ring with large, swanky gestures. He sings the first song with the "Chorus of Spectators."

Overture

(Orchestra version)

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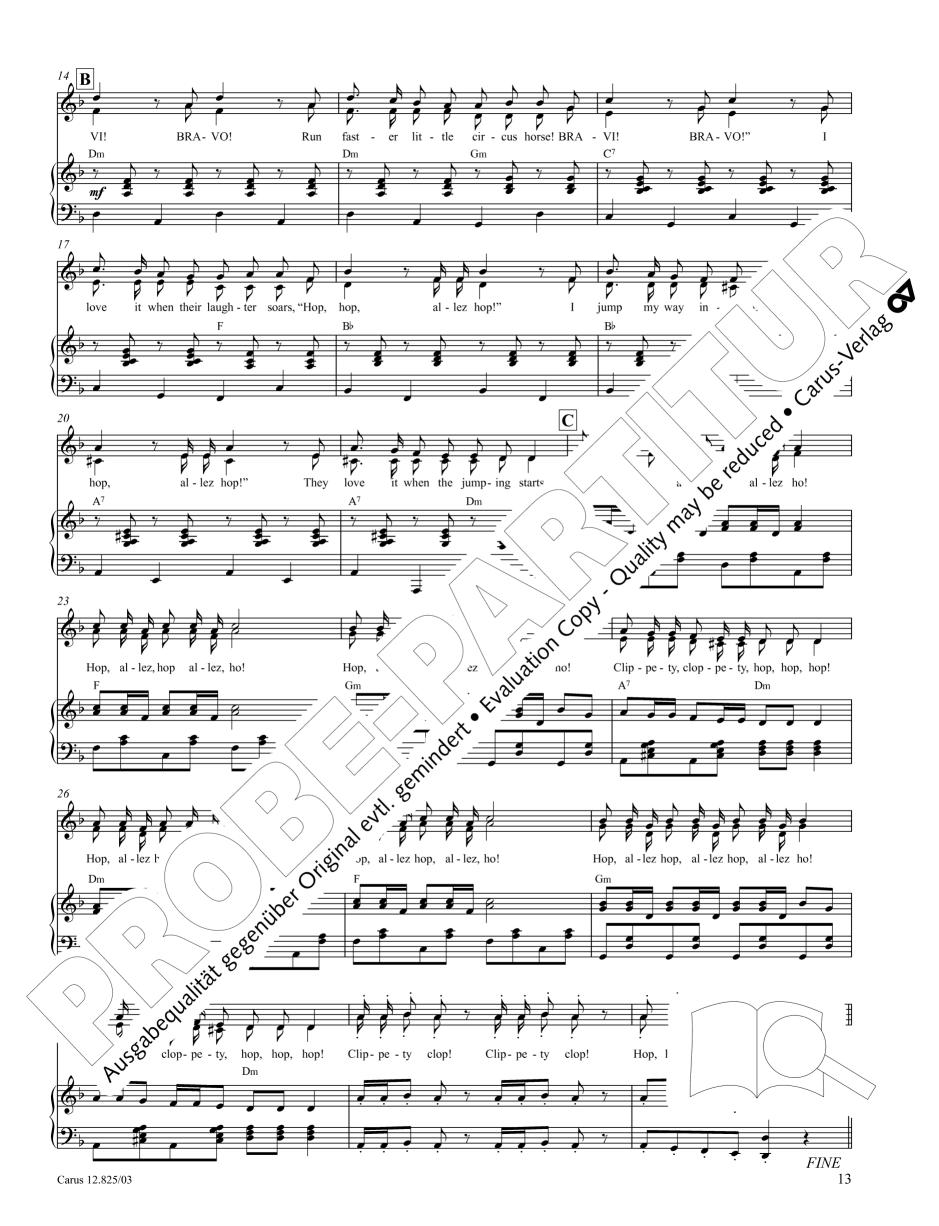
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with









The horses trot offstage. The ringmaster enters.

Ringmaster: Thank you, thank you, muchas grazie. Aren't they wonderful, our racy wild Mongolian horses from ... uhm, from Ulan Bator!

And here's yet another attraction of Circus Allegro. Join me in welcoming Fakir Fatalo from the State of Rajastan in India!

He spends his nights sleeping on broken glass. Sometimes he even prefers pins or very sharp razorblades.

But he usually takes his afternoon nap on his bed of nails!

August stumbles on stage.

Ringmaster: Hey, August! Did you let Fatalo know that he's on now?

August: I just woke him up.

Ringmaster: Excuse me? You just woke him up? He is such a lazy slob, he is. Has he fallen asleep again on his nails? He's supposed to dance!

August:

Ringmaster: Where else? Anybody could do it on the floor.

August:

Ringmaster: Ladies and Gentlemen! Dear children! Watch and be amazed! Here he comes: Fatalo, the fakir from Rajastar

Fatalo:

Ringmaster: Rumba!

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Song 3 Fakir Fatalo

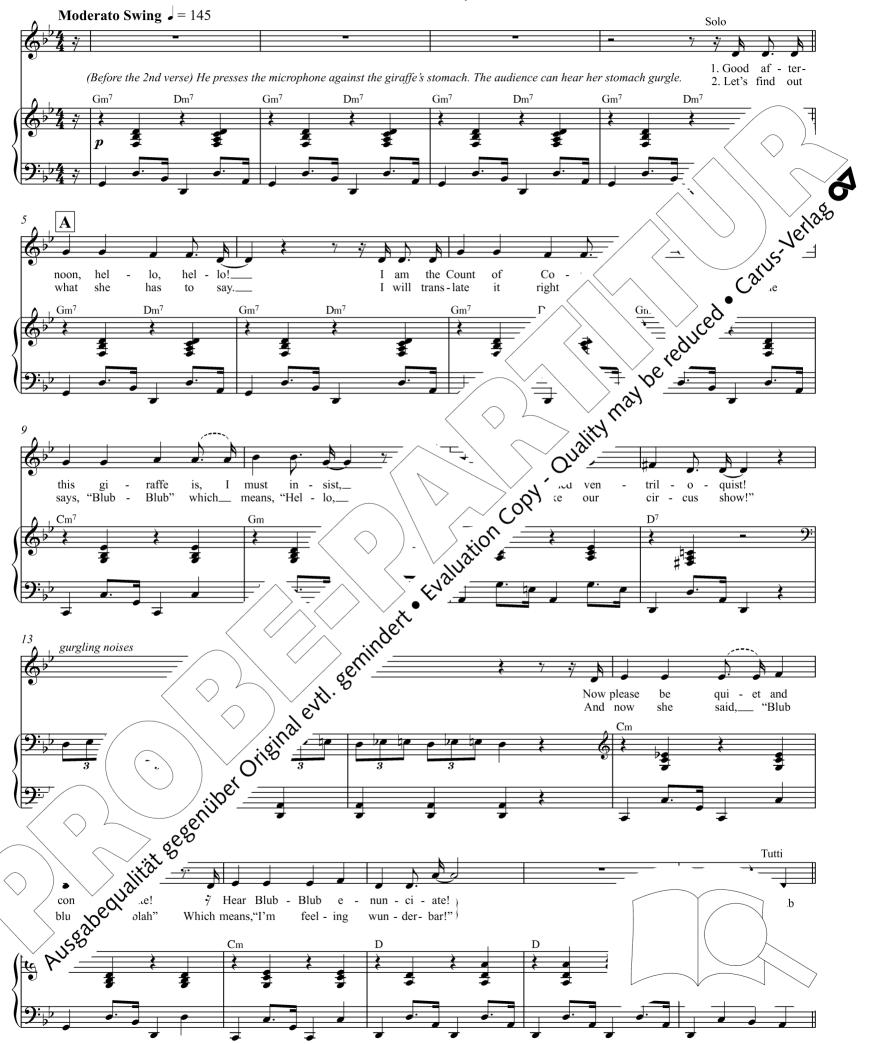








Blub-Blub the giraffe's leash. The Count of Cosimo sings the following song, the chorus of spectators joins him in ...e refrain.







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The ringmaster quickly pulls the bear trainer aside and whispers audibly.

What do you mean, the bear is naked? Well then, just tell him to get dressed! We have to show his act! It's fabulous, everybody loves it! Just take a pot of honey and lure him back into his pelt. (Speaking loudly to the audience) No worries, dear audience, no worries! The bear might have a thick skin, but he is also a very sensitive animal. A true artist, really. Otherwise he wouldn't be performing here at Circus Allegro with his stunning dance number. Speaking of dance ... Yeeeees, we have yet another great attraction for you: Graciosa ... (turning around) August? August enters. Is Signorina Graciosa ready for her performance? We are going to bring forward her tightrope act. Yes, yes, I think she's ready, I just stumbled over her. August: She was just practicing her (struggling to find the right word) ... banana. Her ... split ... her ... banana split. I think. August is pulling on his legs and trying to do gymnastics. Painful moaning. Ouality may be reduced. Pr Oooh, ouch, ouch, I really like eating a banana split much much more than practicing one (continues to moan). Ringmaster: (annoyed) Thank you, August, that's enough! Please ask Signorina Graciosa to come on stage now. Ladies and Gentler Light as a feather and just as beautiful: Gracioooooosaaaaaa! August: (limps backstage and moans) Graciosa, Graciosa ... Graciosa enters holding a long balancing pole. While the chorus of spectators is singing, she dances her (on the floor / on the balance beam / etc.) Graciosa the Tightrope Dancer Song 6 Lyrics: them the grace a grace bove the ground, and moves with - out a noise. so high. ance.





Graciosa floats away. The audience applauds. August enters. "As a matter of course" he receives Graciosa's applause. He is holding a large, empty honey pot. (in a hushed whisper) Uhm, August? August? Is everything alright with the bear? Is he back inside his fur? Ringmaster: (laughing) He has already finished off three pots of honey, but so far he hasn't crawled back into his fur. Ringmaster: (angry) Then have Grizzly Grozzlicek tell him that he'll be grounded from honey for a week! Get ready, August, it's your turn now! Who, me? Naaah, I'm not in the mood. (faking a laugh) Hahaha. Heeheehee. Hohoho! (shocked) August! What's wrong with you? Ringmaster: I understand how the bear is feeling. Sometimes, this job gets under my skin, too. It's like a three-ring circus in here! (angry and desparate) Will you be funny already! I am paying you to be funny. (crying from rage) Do you get that? Ringmaster: Funny! Ha, ha! (in tears, shaking August) Hahaha. Heeheehee. Hohoho! Carus Verlas

Ca With angry gestures, he sends August backstage. August ducks and shuffles away. The ringmaster wipes the tears from his c and pulls himself together. (to the audience) Dear children, dear children large and small. Things are getting funny now! You'll be crying from laughter! Give it up for our f u n n y August! August enters, he seems disheartened and sad. He starts to cry terribly. The ringmaster looks at him grimly On cue, August puts on a smile. He starts singing. Did You Ever See an August? Song 7 **Melancholic Waltz** J = 170ing actualist and he had ares. chil - dren have the spot-lights are bright. They're clown should be jokes are craft. But

August:

August:

August:





As August shuffles offstage, the ringmaster gives him an approving pat on the back.

Ringmaster:

There you go. I know you're a real pro. Funny on command. And now chop chop, go backstage and check whether the bear has finally put on his pelt! Or else ...! Or else, send out Jack the Knife.

(to the audience) Well, well, isn't he funny, isn't he wonderful, my new assistant August. Nobody falls on their face quite the way he does.

(he yells at August, who is backstage now) So what's up with the bear? (uncomprehensible muttering is the answer) Excuse me?! He is still refusing? Has everybody conspired against me? First Signorina Bella Stella disappears.

Then I have to tolerate this clown as my assistant. And now this bear, this teddy bear, this wimp freaks out because of a tiny little mouse. A mouse!!!

(with a tormented expression to the audience)











Signor Volcano and Signorina Flamma exit, August and the ringmaster enter.

(with a promising tone in his voice) This thing with the water and the bear ... (dryly) Wasn't a good idea. August:

(worried) Why not? Ringmaster:

August: Grizzly Grozzlicek sprayed the bear with water from the hose, but the bear didn't exactly crawl back into his fur ...

he took his fur and used it as a towel ... (whines) and now it's all wet and smelly.

Ringmaster: (whines as well) Oh snap! We have to come up with a new plan.

August: Yes ... a plan. What kind of plan?

They look at each other helplessly. August looks the ringmaster up and down. He starts to draw into the air with

August:

Ringmaster:

August:

Ringmaster:

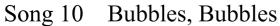
August:

Ringmaster:

August:

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Music: Peter Schindler Lyrics: Babette Dieterich / Peter Schindler / Maria Slowinska



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August:

Dear audience, I came here to ... I ... I briefly have to fill in for the ringmaster. He had an urgent ... He had to But ... he will be back. Soon. (looks at his notes) What's next?

Oooh, yes, next up is Doctor Magic, the best magician in the whole wide world! Oh, what am I saying, the best magician in the whole wide universe! He can conjure up anything, conjure up, conjure down, conjure left, conjure right!

He knows more than a million magic tricks and twice as many magic spells! And he has never forgotten a single one of them!

Song 11 Abracadabra!

Lyrics: Babette Dieterich / Peter Schindler / Maria Slowinska

- Intro 1: The magician walks into the ring with large, commanding gestures. He is followed by two mysterious assistants and Madame Suleika.
- The two assistants lift a veil. Madame Suleika, who is supposed to disappear, is standing behind it.
- Intro 2: The two assistants lift the veil. Madame Suleika is standing behind it; she has pig ears. Intro 3: The two assistants lift the veil. Madame Suleika is standing behind it; she has tiger claws.
- Intro 4: The two assistants lift the veil. Madame Suleika is standing behind it; she has elephant feet.

After each failure, the magician and his assistants are horrified.





Ladies and gentlemen! (He smiles awkwardly) I'm afraid the ringmaster is still being held up ... He is really bus think. But, erm, I am sure he will be back soon. In the meantime, I will just continue to fill in for him. So, let me just say: Hello, netto! Everybody let's welcome our awesome, terrific, super-duper Jerri! Jerri the Juggler! (looks at his notes, then improvises) Juggle-di-juggle-August:

Jerri the Juggler enters. The chorus of spectators sing the following song while the juggler performs his tricks.

Song 12 Jingeling-Jing-Jong







The bear and his trainer enter. The bear is wearing the ringmaster's hat. They dance while the chorus of spectators sing the song.















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All of a sudden, Bella Stella walks calmly into the ring. She has the tiger on a leash. They are both eating a vanilla ice-cream cone. (loud and surprised) There he is! (shouting simultaneously) There he is! – The tiger! – Oh my gosh, the tiger! Everybody: And there is Bella Stella! BELLA STELLA!!!!??? Where were you all this time? Ringmaster: (matter-of-factly) I went for ice cream. (snappy) With the tiger. (reproachfully) You're never free. Bella Stella: (frantically) Going for ice cream with the tiger! That's it! That's brilliant! What a fantastic idea for an act! Bought! That's what we will be showing at Circus Allegro from now on! Every day, starting tomorrow, when we will be back again to welcome you to Circus Allegro! Ringmaster: Huge applause. Everybody sings the final song. Carus Perias

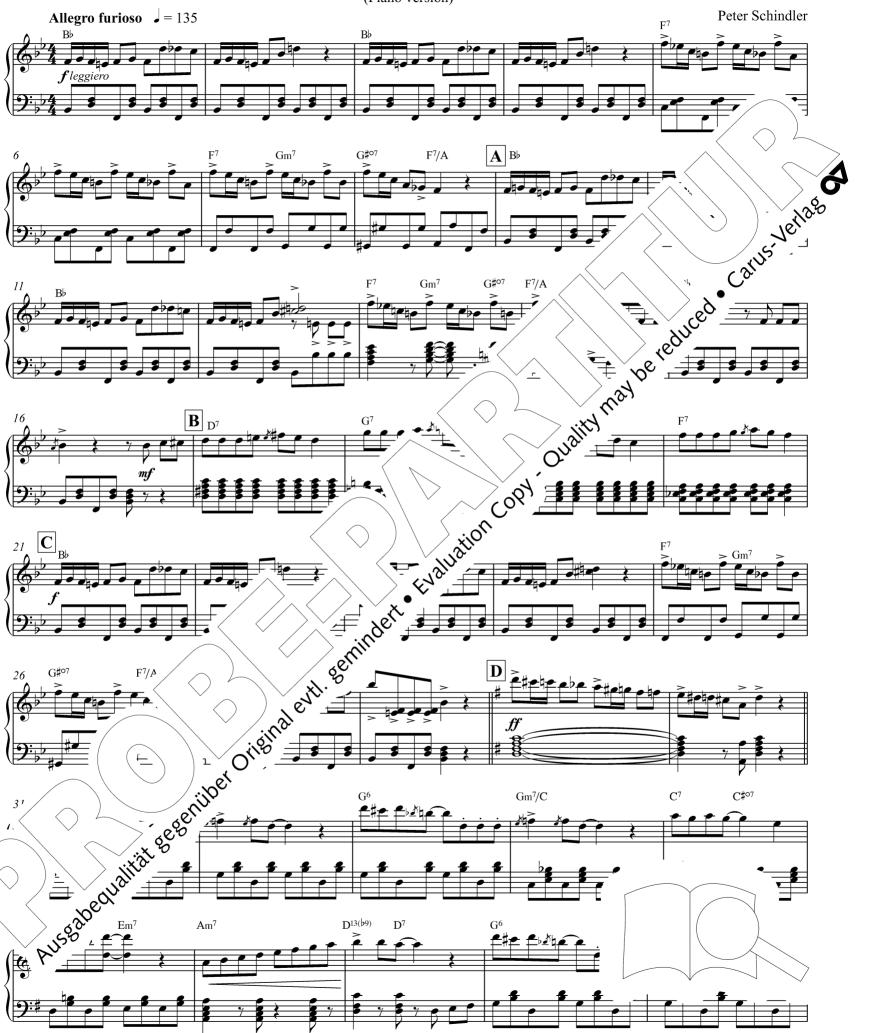
Ca Song 17 We Welcome You! (Song 1, Reprise) Lyrics: Babette Dieterich / Peter 6 $\mathbf{Vivo} \ \, \mathbf{J} = 170 \ \, (\mathbf{\Pi} = \mathbf{J}^3 \mathbf{J})$ f marcata - Evaluation Copy with man # Original evil. Bernindert.

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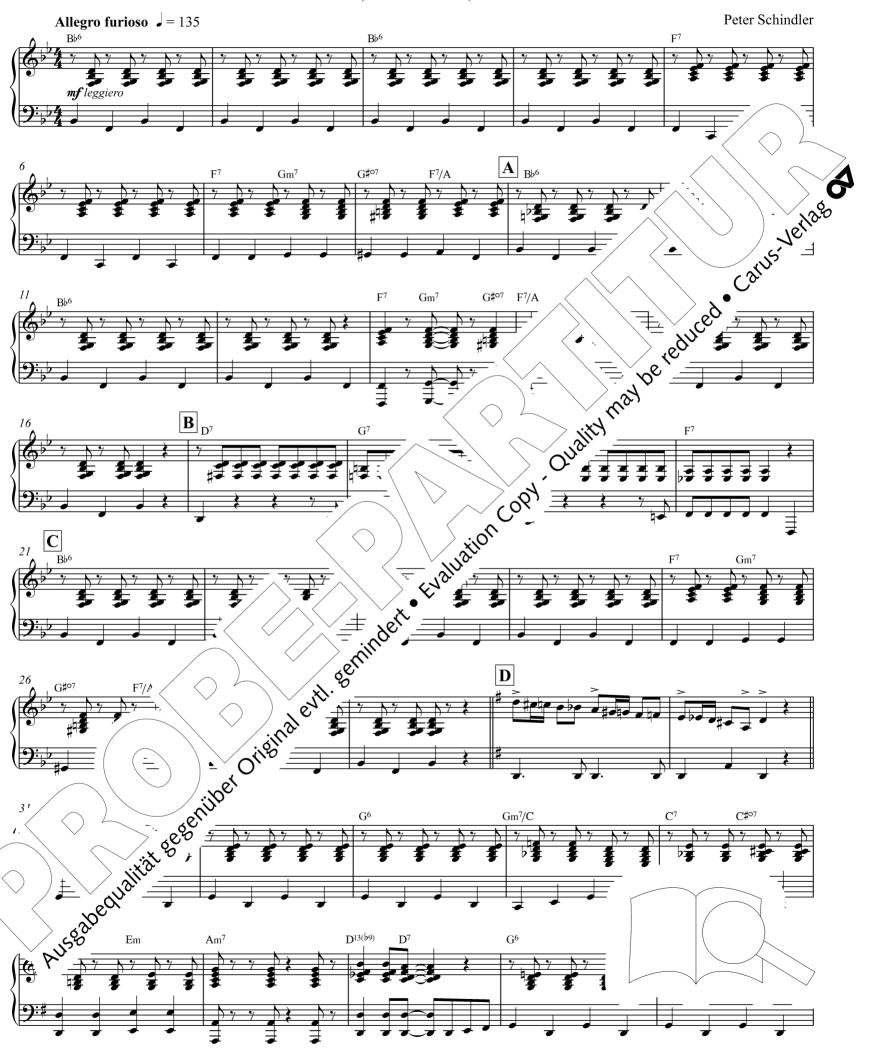


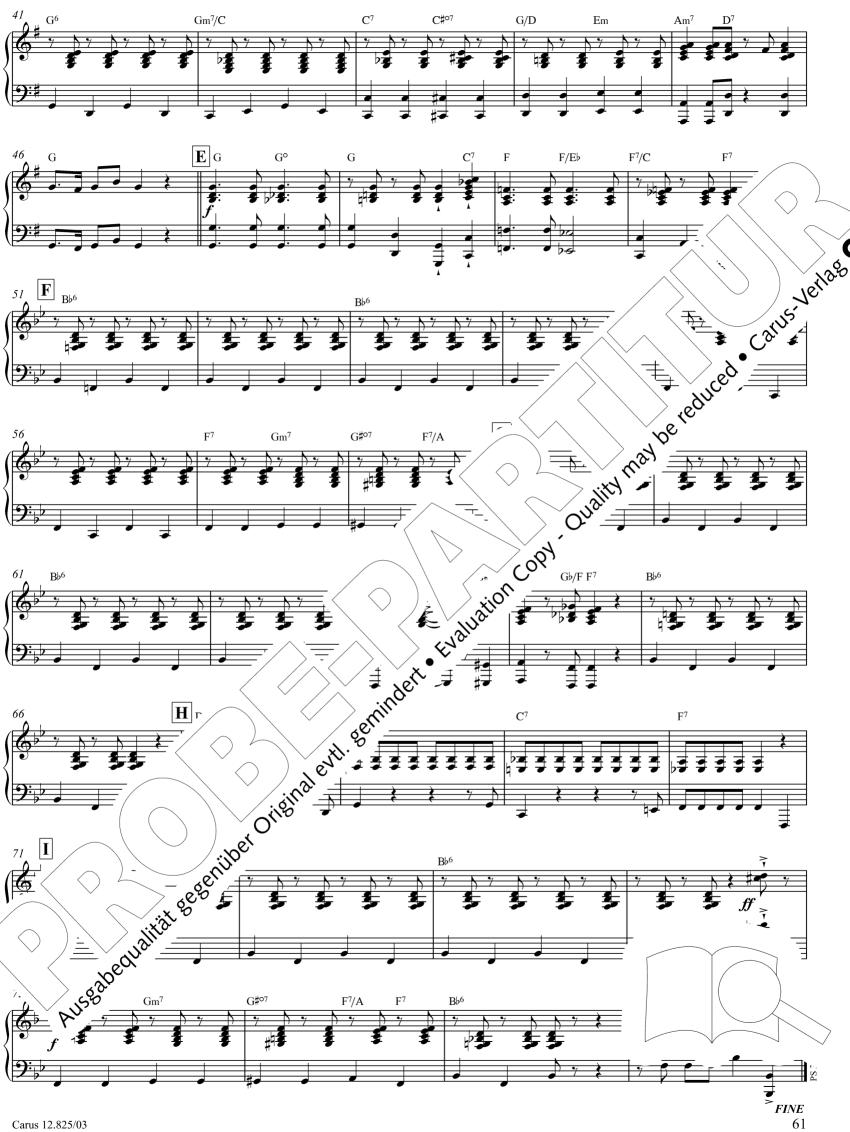
Finale (Piano version)





Finale (Orchestra version)





Important information for performing Circus Allegro on stage

We are very happy that you have chosen to perform Circus Allegro. The authors and the publisher are always striving to offer you new and interesting pieces for performance. Here is a list of questions which are frequently asked in connection with the performance of works that are staged.

What must I take into account if I want to perform this piece on stage?

The musical Circus Allegro is a copyrighted music-dramatic work. It is subject to the so-called "Grand Right," which is administered by the publisher and but not by GEMA (the German performance rights society), nor by its sister performance rights societies. Therefore, before performing this work it is essential to obtain permission from Carus-Verlag and also to conclude a contract for performance with this publisher.

Is it sufficient to report this performance to GEMA (or to the performance rights society of your respective country, such as ASCAP (USA), SACEM (France), SGAE (Spain), etc.)?

No, neither GEMA nor its sister performance rights societies have jurisdiction over staged performances. Staged performances are not goverend by standard, blanket contracts.

What information must be printed on advertising posters, in programs, and other publications, as well as in announcements posted in the internet?

The complete title of the work, the name of the composer, the author of the text and translator, and the name of the publisher.

May the work be altered?

All alterations of protected works are regarded as encroachments on the copyrighted personal rights of the author(s) and therefore fundamentally require written permission. This permission is to be obtained directly from Carus-Verlag. Copyright law protects the personal rights of the author and secures their existence through reasonable compensation for their creative efforts.

Can I use the title page for advertisement purposes?

Permission to use the title page for advertisement can be granted following submission of a written request.

May I copy the music?

No, printed music is protected by copyright. Therefore, the reproduction of music is legally forbidden.

What about homemade or professional recordings?

Recordings of performances require written permission. This applies to recordings intended both for private use or for commercial sale and use. For any and all types of performance written permission must be obtained from Carus-Verlag and licensed contracts to film them must be concluded prior to filming any performance.

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Performance material

It is possible to accompany and perform Circus Allegro in two different versions and for this purpose the following performance material is available:

Version 1 (Soli, choir, orchestera, rhythm section)

Full score (Carus 12.825)
Piano score (Carus 12.825/03)
Choral score (Carus 12.825/05)

Version 2 (Soli, choir, piano, rhythm section)
Piano score (Carus 12.825/03)
Choral score (Carus 12.825/05)
Bass (Carus 12.825/15)
Drums (Carus 12.825/41)

Complete orchestral material available (Carus 12.825/19, rental only)

Playback-CD (Carus 12.826/96)