
Gending Chelsea
for Javanese gamelan slendro

by

Jody Diamond & Virgil Thompson



Gending Chelsea – Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond



Notes and Performance Instructions.....	1
Vocal Introduction & Balungan.....	2
Vocal part, Section A, Irama II (mixed chorus).....	3
Vocal part, Section B, Irama II (two parts and clapping).....	4
<i>Lagu Katanya</i>	5
Vocal part: Gending Chelsea to and from Lagu Katanya	6
Bonang part, Section A and B, Irama I.....	8
Bonang part, Section A and B, Irama II	9
Saron part, Section B, Irama II.....	10
Appendix: choral parts in Western notation	11

Gending Chelsea – Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

NOTES AND PERFORMANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Gending Chelsea is a collaboration between Virgil Thomson, who composed the balungan and aphorisms, and Jody Diamond, who made the arrangement and composed the vocal and instrumental parts, opening text and *Lagu Katanya*. Recordings of *Gending Chelsea* are available from the American Gamelan Institute. Ms. Diamond may also be contacted for additional instrumental parts or performance questions.

Background

Lou Harrison wanted his old friend Virgil Thomson to write a piece for gamelan, but Virgil demurred on the basis of not enough knowledge. Well then, said Lou, write me a sixteen bar hymn tune! When Virgil complied, Lou transferred the tune to cipher notation in slendro. This he gave to Jody Diamond, along with a few of Virgil's best aphorisms, and the request: arrange this for gamelan and write vocal parts with the aphorisms as text. "Gending Chelsea," the title of the balungan by Virgil Thomson, and "Lagu Katanya," the title of the various vocal parts and inserted song written by Jody Diamond, were the result. The piece was premiered at Mills College in May of 1982. Chelsea is the name of the New York City hotel in which Thomson lived for many years.

Performance Instructions: Form

The following form has been followed for several performances and recordings, although variations may be used.

Introduction (serves as bawa-style buka)

Irama I: A-B (twice)

Irama II: A-B

A-B.stop on 3rd kempul, insert Lagu Katanya, return on gong (1)

A-B

Irama I: A-B (suwuk)

For the kendhangan, use Yogyanese style ladrang for Irama I and Solonese style ladrang for Irama II. Use kendhangan ciblon (as in Ladrang Tirtakencana or Ladrang Mugirahayu) in Section B, Irama II, to accompany the various imbal and kotekan.

Vocal Notation

A line or dot beneath a *single* number (e.g. 6 or 5) indicates lower register; an underline beneath two or more numbers (e.g. 65) indicates a melisma: all those pitches are sung on one syllable.

For gamelan groups that may use singers who are not familiar with cipher notation, Western notation for the choral parts is provided in an Appendix. When read straight through, this part follows the form indicated above, with one exception: the balungan for *Lagu Katanya* is repeated four times in the Western notation and five times in the cipher notation. Either is acceptable for performance.

Gending Chelsea – Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

VOCAL INTRODUCTION & BALUNGAN

Introduction

Sung by a solo male voice in free rhythm, slight pause at end of each phrase. Gender play first few notes of each phrase as a pitch cue. Dashes following a pitch mean continue to hold the pitch on those beats. The gamelan enters on gong 1 at the end of the introduction.

1 The	1 words	2 that	3 Vir-	1 gil	2 spoke	5 are	6 here	
1 A	i true	2 de -	5 light	6 for	3 heart	2 and	6 ear	
5 Yet	6 words	i that	-	-	5 bear	3 his	2 name	
5 when	6 spo -	2 ken	-	i are	2 not	6 the	5 same	
2 as	i thought	5 that	6 moves	-	3 by	2 the	6 grace	5 of
1 ma -	2 jes -	3 ty	2 in	6 space.	(slight pause)	i sound's	-	
solo begin steady rhythm				5 So	5 we	6 im-	3 part	2 in
kendang				t	t	p	d	.
Solo & Chorus				1 what	2 was	3 in -	3 spired	2 by
				Vir -	6 gil's		(1)	hand.

A:

· 1 2 3 1 2 5 6
i i 2 5 6 3 2 6
5 6 i . . 5 3 2
5 6 2 . 1 2 6 ⑤

B:

2 1 5 6 · 3 2 6
5 i . 1 2 3 2 6
. 5 6 3 2 6 5 6
1 2 3 . 1 . 6 ①

Form: **IRAMA I: A-B (2x)**

IRAMA II: A-B | A-B stop on 3rd kempul (at ^a), insert *Lagu Katanya*, return on gong ① | A-B [3x total]

IRAMA I: A-B (1X)

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

VOCAL PART, SECTION A, IRAMA II (MIXED CHORUS)

Bal.	.	.	1	2	3	1	2	5	6)
verse I	.	.	1	1	<u>1</u> 2 3	.	1	2	mel - low - ing
verse II	.	.	1	1	1 2 3	. 3 3	1	2 2 2	tel - li - gence
Bal	i	i	2	5	6	3	2	6)	
verse I	.	.	i i	<u>i</u> 2 5	.	6	3	2 . 3 5	6
verse II	.	.	i i	i 2 5	. 5 5	6	3	2 3 5	6
Bal	5	6	i	.	.	5	3	2)	
verse I	.	.	2	2	<u>i</u> 6 5 <u>6</u>	3	5	5 6	5 3 2
verse II	.	.	2	2	i 6 5 . 5 6	3	5	5 6	5 3 2
Bal	5	6	2	.	1	2	6	(5)	
verse I	.	.	2	2	<u>2</u> 3 2	1	2	6 1 6	5
verse II	.	6	1	2	2 o- ver	2 2	1	2	ma- tion

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

VOCAL PART, SECTION B, IRAMA II (TWO PART CHORUS AND CLAPPING)

BAL	2	1	5	6	.	3	2	6)
Voices 1	.	.	5 5 5 3 . 5 6	.	.	.	5 5 5 3 . 5 6	
Voices 2	.	.	5 5 5 3 . 5 3	.	.	.	5 5 5 3 . 5 3	It's im-por-tant to have

BAL	5	i	.	1	2	3	2	6)
Voices 1	.	.	i i i i . 2 3	.	.	.	6 6 <u>6</u> 5 <u>3</u> 5 6	
Voices 2	.	.	i i i i . 2 i	.	.	.	6 6 <u>6</u> 5 <u>3</u> 5 3	some-thing you can do

BAL	.	5	6	3	2	6	5	6)
Voices 1	.	.	5 5 6 . 5 . 3	.	.	.	6 6 <u>6</u> 5 <u>3</u> 5 6	
Voices 2	.	.	5 5 6 . 5 . 1	.	.	.	6 6 <u>6</u> 5 <u>3</u> 5 3	that will work for you

BAL	1	2^	3	.@	1	.	6	(1)
Voices 1	.	.	3 3 <u>3</u> 5 <u>6</u> 5 3	.	.	.	1 . 6 .	6
Voices 2	.	.	3 3 <u>3</u> 5 <u>6</u> 5 1	.	.	.	5 . 3 .	3

Clapping

In Section B, Irama II, the singers clap the following repeated interlocking patterns, shown here in relation to two beats of the balungan. The clapping begins after gong 5 and ends on gong 1, except where the kendang slows down to stop on the third kempul, in which case the clapping stops on the ketuk (pitch 2, marked with ^) before that kempul. Use a resonant clapping sound, with closed fingers struck in the center of a curved palm. The patterns are given in order of priority; at minimum use the first two. The chorus may be divided into clappers and singers if desired.

balungan	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	1
1.	.	x	.	x	.	x	.	x
2.	x	x	.	x	x	x	.	
3.	x	x	x	.	x	x	x	.
4.	x	.	x	.	x	.	x	.
5.	.	x	.	x	.	x	.	
6.	.	x	.	x	.	x	.	x

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

Lagu Katanya

Lagu Katanya is inserted after the gamelan stops on the third kempul of Section B, Irama II.

This song consists of four elements: a balungan and three vocal phrases of different lengths. When the balungan is repeated, the eight beat phrase will stay in the same relationship to it, while the seven and ten beat phrases, repeated without a break, will shift in relationship to the balungan. These changing relationships are shown on the following page, with the phrases indicated as VII, VIII, and X. The text has been omitted from this section so that the overlay of phrases may be seen more clearly. Five repetitions are shown, although the length may vary. All parts end on 5 or 1 with the final gong (it may be necessary to change the final tone to one of those notes if performing more than five repetitions of the balungan).

The instrumentation is gender, gender panerus, kendang ciblon, gambang, voices, slenthem (Slen.), kenong, kempul, gong. The kenong, kempul and gong are shown in the first line below only. They continue to play, however, throughout the piece.

Balungan, Kenong, Kempul and Gong

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 (1)

7 beat phrase for solo male (VII)

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 1
. . . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1
It's im- por- tant to have some-thing that will work for you the next day

8 beat phrase for two (alto) females (VIII)

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 1
. . . 1 1 1 2 1 . 1 5 5 1 5 6 5
. . . 5 5 5 6 3 . 5 2 2 5 3 2 1
Mo- ney in- spires, suc- cess is mel- low- ing

10 beat phrase for solo (soprano) female (X)

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 1
.
Ne- ver un- der es- ti- mate the pub- lic's in- tel- li- gence, Ne- ver o- ver es- ti- mate
5 2 5 3 5 2 5 1
. 5 5 . 3 5 6 5 ma- tion

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

Lagu Katanya

by Jody Diamond

Slen. 5 5 5 (1)
 VII | INTRO. VII. . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1

Slen. 5 2 5 3 5 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 (1)
 VII VII. . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 VII.
 VIII VIII. 1 1 1 2 6 . . . 1 5 . 5 1 5 6 5
 5 5 5 6 3 . . . 5 2 . 2 5 3 2 1

Slen. 5 2 5 3 5 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 (1)
 VII . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 VII. . 6 6 5
 VIII VIII. 1 1 1 2 6 . . . 1 5 . 5 1 5 6 5
 X . . X 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 . 5 5 . 3 5 6 5 2 1 1 1 1 1 2 1

Slen. 5 2 5 3 5 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 (1)
 VII 3 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 VII. . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2
 VIII VIII. 1 1 1 2 6 . . . 1 5 . 5 1 5 6 5
 X . 5 5 . 3 5 6 5 1 X 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 . 5 5 . 3 5 6 5 2

Slen. 5 2 5 3 5 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 (1)
 VII . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 VII. . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 6 5
 VIII VIII. 1 1 1 2 6 . . . 1 5 . 5 1 5 6 5
 X . 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 . 5 5 . 3 5 6 5 1 X 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 . 5 5

(final time with ritard to gong)

Slen. 5 2 5 3 5 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 (1)
 VII 3 2 1 2 . 6 . 5 3 2 . 1 VII. . 6 6 5 3 2 1 2 . 6 6 5 3 2 1' 1
 VIII VIII. 1 1 1 2 6 . . . 1 5 . 5 1 5 6' 5
 X . 3 5 6 5 2 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 . 5 5 . 3 5 6 5 1 X 1 1' 1

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

FROM GENDING CHELSEA TO AND FROM LAGU KATANYA

The pesindhen (female soloist) sings a short solo phrase before *Lagu Katanya*, and again after it. This are based on the Javanese practice of *andegan* (stopping), where the gamelan stops, waits for the singers phrase, and returns a few beats later in the form.

• To go to *Lagu Katanya*

After the sounding of the third kempul, the pesindhen sings this short phrase, after which there is a moment of silence (about two "counts", or 1.5 seconds). This is followed by the male soloist singing the first line of *Lagu Katanya*, as shown on page 5. The small numbers indicate a vocal ornament.

pesindhen: 6_{i6} 5 3-56-i . . 6 6 53 2 1 2
Vir-gil says: male: It's im-por-tant to have, etc. to *Lagu Katanya*

• To return to Gending Chelsea

The female soloist sings the following phrase. All instruments enter on gong 1; softer instruments like gender, gambang, etc. can join in two beats before the gong, on the word "next".

Free rhythm, with pauses at phrase markings ('):

6 5 3561 ' 1 1 1 6 1 3212 ' 6 6 6 6 653561 ' 132163-53213 {3'}
Vir-gil says: It's im-por-tant to have some-thing that will work for {you}
(3 repeated below)

steady rhythm

Bal.		(1)
kendang	b o o o P o o o o	
voice	3 . . 23 <u>53532</u> 1 you the next day	

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

BONANG PART, SECTION A AND B, IRAMA I

(Underlined notes are in lower row of bonang.)

Section A

<i>BAL</i>	.	1	2	3	1	2	5	6)
Bonang	2	<u>1</u>	2	<u>1</u>	2	3	5	<u>6</u>
<i>BAL</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>i</i>	2	2	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	3	6)
Bonang	.	.	i	2	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	.	<u>6</u>
<i>BAL</i>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	2)
Bonang	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
<i>BAL</i>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	2	.	5	3
Bonang	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>

Section B

<i>BAL</i>	2	<u>1</u>	2	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	.	3	2	6)
Bonang	2	<u>1</u>	2	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	.
<i>BAL</i>	5	<u>i</u>	5	<u>i</u>	.	.	<u>1</u>	2	3	6)
Bonang	5	<u>i</u>	5	<u>i</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	2	3	<u>6</u>
<i>BAL</i>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	6)
Bonang	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	.
<i>BAL</i>	1	<u>2</u>	1	<u>2</u>	3	.	@	1	.	(1)
Bonang	1	<u>2</u>	1	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	.	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

BONANG PART, SECTION A AND B, IRAMA II

Section A: mipil

BAL	2	1	2	.	.	1	2	1	2	3	5	.	3	3	5	3	.	2	1	.	1	2	1	2	1	6	5	.	6	6	1	6	6)
Bonang	1	1	1	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	5	5	3	5	.	3	6	6	6	3	3	6	.	5	6	1	.	6	6	1	6)	
BAL	5	6	i	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	6	5	3	.	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5)	
Bonang	6	1	.	6	6	6	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.	6	5	3	.	5	5	3	5	2	6	6	6	2	2	6	.)
BAL	5	6	2	2	.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	.	1	2	3	.	2	2	1	2	6	1	5	5	5	5	5	(5)	
Bonang	5	6	5	.	5	6	5	6	5	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	.	1	2	3	.	2	2	1	2	6	1	5	5	5	5	5)	

Section B: bonang imbal

BAL	2	1	5	6	.	3	2	6
Bonang	B: <u>1-3</u> BP: <u>2-5</u>				<u>1-3</u> , <u>2-5</u>			
BAL	5	i	.	1	2	3	2	6
Bonang	5-i,	<u>3-6</u>	.	3-6,	<u>2-5</u>	3	2	6
BAL	.	5	6	3	2	6	5	6
Bonang	<u>1-3</u> ,	<u>2-5</u>	.	<u>1-3</u> ,	<u>2-5</u>	6	5	6
BAL	1	2	3	.@	1	.	6	(1)
Bonang	<u>1-3</u> ,	<u>2-5</u>	.	2-6,	<u>3-1</u>	6	5	6

Imbal tones are shown at the beginning of each gatra for bonang and bonang panerus, respectively, and the goal tone for each kembangan is in boldface. Imbal and kembangan phrases will be of equal length, i.e. two balungan beats each.

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

SARON PART, SECTION B, IRAMA II

This part is for instruments with extended range from low 5 to high 3. Instruments with a smaller range should use one of the variations below.

A

. 1 2 3	1 2 5 6)
1 1 2 5	6 3 2 6)
5 6 1 .	. 5 3 2)
5 6 2 .	1 2 6 (5)

B

Bal.	2	1	5	6	.	3	2	6)
S. I	.....	55612321	.....	66121656	.....	56532123	.....	66165356
S. II	.....	i.1.165	.....	3.5.323	.....	3.3.321	.....	3.3.123
Bal.	5	i	.	1	2	3	2	6)
S. I	.....	55616561	.....	21232121	.....	56532123	.....	66165356
S. II	.....	i.1.165	.....	3.5.323	.....	3.3.353	.....	3.3.123

Bal.	.	5	6	3	2	6	5	6)
S. I	.....	32356165	.....	21235653	.....	56121656	.....	61656356
S. II	.....	5.5.561	.....	3.3.323	.....	6.6.216	.....	6.6.653

Bal.	1	2	3	.	1	.	6	(1)
S. I	.....	32353212	.....	56123123	.....	21235321	.....	21656121
S. II	.....	2.2.235	.....	3.3.356	.....	1.1.123	.....	1.1.165

Instruments on which the lowest note is 6, use X; for lowest note on 1, use Y.

Bal.	1	2	3	.	1	.	6	(1)
X								
S. I	.....	32353212	.....	16123123	.....	21235321	.....	21232161
S. II	.....	2.2.235	.....	3.3.356	.....	1.1.123	.....	1.1.161
Y								
S. I	.....	32353212	.....	13123123	.....	21235321	.....	21232321
S. II	.....	2.2.235	.....	1.3.356	.....	1.1.123	.....	1.1.121

Gending Chelsea - Lagu Katanya

Virgil Thomson & Jody Diamond

Introduction

Freely



The words that Virgil spoke are here A true de-light



for heart and ear Yet words that bear his name when spoken are not the same



as thoughts that moves by the grace of sound's ma-jes-ty in space.

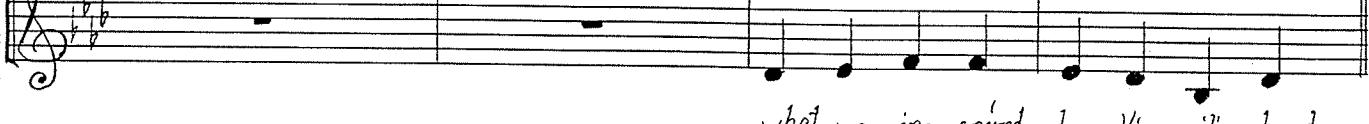
Strictly in rhythm $\text{♩} = 112$

Ten.



So we im-part in ca-dence grand what was in-spired by Vir-gil's hand

Chorus:



what was in-spired by Vir-gil's hand

Tacet until Trama II

Irama II

A verse I

 $\text{♩} = 56-60$

Chorus

Mo-ney in-spires Suc-cess is mel-low-ing

Balungan

1 2 3 1 2 5 6)

Chorus

Mo-ney in-spires Suc-cess is mel-low-ing

Bal.

1 1 2 5 6 3 2 6)

Chorus

For-give our sins and come vi-sit us

Bal.

5 6 1 . 5 3 2)

Chorus

For-give our sins and come to vis-it

Bal

5 6 2 . 1 2 6

V.S.

Gending Chelsea

B

page 3

Fine

Chorus

us

It's im-por-tant to have

It's im-por-tant to have

1 2 3 4 5 6

tapping

sustaining

Fine

(5) 2 1 5 6 . 3 5 6

Chorus

It's im-por-tant to have

something you can do

Bal.

5 1 . 1 2 3 2 6)

Chorus

that will work for you

That will work for you

Bal.

5 6 3 2 6 5 6)

Gending Cheisea

A verse II

page 4

Chorus

stop clapping

that will work for you the next day Ne-ver un-der-es- ti-

Bass

1 2 3 . 1 . 6 (1) . 1 2 3

Chorus

mate the public's in-tel-li-gence. Ne-ver o-ver-es- ti-mate its in- for- ma- tion

Bass

1 2 5 (6) 1 1 2 5 6 3 2 (6)

Chorus

Ne-ver un-der-es- ti-mate the pub-lic's in-tel-li-gence

Bass

5 6 1 . . 5 3 2.)

Chorus

Ba-by ne-ver o-ver-es- ti-mate its in- for- ma-

Bass

5 6 2 . 1 2 . 6

V.S.

Chorus

It's im-por-tant to have

Clapping

1 2 3 4 5 6

5 6

Chorus

It's im-por-tant to have

something you can do

Bal.

5 1 . 1 2 3 2 6)

Chorus

that will work for you

That will work for you

Bal.

. 5 6 3 2 6 5 6)

Gending Chelsea

ritard.

Lagu Katanya

♩ = 48

page 6

Solo Tenor

ritard.

that will work for you

ritard.

that will work for you

Bal.

1 2 3 STOP solo female
["Virgil says... "pause"]

(1)

2 Altos

Mo-ney in-spires

Suc-cess is mel-low-ing

Ten.

It's im-por-tant to have something that will work for you the next day

It's im-

Bal.

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 (1)

Solo Soprano

Ne-ver un-der-es-ti-mate the pub-lic's in-tel-li-gence Ne-ver o-ver-es-ti-mate the

2 Altos

Ten.

per-tant to have something that will work for you the next day

It's im-por-tant to

Bal.

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 (1)

Gending Chelsea

page 7

Sop.

pub-lic's in-for-ma-tion. Ne-ver un-der-es-ti-mate the pub-lic's in-tel-li-gence Ne-ver

A. C.

Mo-ney in-spires Suc-cess is mel-low-ing

Ten.

have Some-thing that will work for you the next day. It's im-por-tant to have some-thing

Bal.

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 ①

ritard.

Sop.

o-ver-es-ti-mate the pub-lic's in-for-ma-tion. Ne-ver un-der-es-ti-mate the pub

A. C.

Mo-ney in-spires Suc-cess is mel-low-ing

Ten.

That will work for you the next day. It's im-por-tant to have some-thing

Bal.

5 2 5 3 5 2 5 ①

Andegan
Freely

Soprano Solo

Vir-gil says It's im-por-tant to have Some-thing that will work

Sop.

for you the next day

=56

Dal Segno S. al Fine