

Commissioned by William Scharnberg  
**Three Sonnets**  
for horn, piano and narrator (1989 - ca 7')

**I. To A Fish**

**Anthony PLOG** (\*1947)

Text by Leigh Hunt (1784 - 1859)

**Allegro**

Narrator

Horn in F

Piano

5

You strange, astonished - looking, angle

f

9

Dreary - mouthed, gaping wretches of the sea,

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12

salt - water ever - lastingly,

*ff mp*

16

*mp*

19

Cold - blooded, though with red your blood be graced,

22

mute, though dwellers in the roaring waste; And

25

you, all shapes be - side, that fishy be,

28

Some round, some flat, some long, all devilry,

## II. A Fish Answers

Moderato

Narrator

Horn in F

Piano

Amazing

4

monster! that, for aught I know,

7

first sight of thee didst make our race For ever stare!

10

O flat and shocking face, Grimly di vi ded from the

13

breast below! Thou

16

dry land horribly dost go With a split body

19

most ri - di - cu - lous pace, Prong after prong, dis - gracer of all grace,

22

Long - useless - finned, haired, upright, unwet, slow!

25

O breather of un - breathable, sword-shar

### III. The Fish Turns Into A Man, And Then Into A Spirit, And Again Speaks

Narrator : Indulge thy smiling scorn, if smiling still, O man! and loathe, but with a sort of love; For difference must its use by difference prove, And, in sweet clang, the spheres with music fill.

Slow and free

Narrator

Horn in F *mp*

Piano

4

7

One of the spirits am I, that at his will

*p*

pedal *p*

9

Live in whate'er has life \_\_\_\_\_ fish, eagle, dove \_\_\_\_\_ No

11

hate, no pride, beneath nought, nor a bove,

13

visitor of the rounds of God's

*cresc.*



16

skill. Man's life is warm,

*mf*

19

glad, sad, 'twixt loves and graves,

23

Boundless in hope, honoured with pangs austere,