

Lholands

arranged by Larry Polansky

for gender, voice(s), and gamelan instruments

1990-1991

Hanover NH

performed and recorded at a Town Hall Concert in Sheffield, Vermont

with Jody Diamond, voice

RECORDING OF SHEFFIELD PERFORMANCE

Balungan and gender cengkok

(arr. L. Polansky, 1991)

for gender, voice(s), kenong, slenthem, gong

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------|-----------|-----------------|---|---------|-----------|
| 6 | 3 | 2 | $\hat{1}$ | 6 | 3 | 5 | $\hat{1}$ |
| I. 1/2 tum 3 | | 1/2 kk1 | | 1/2 tum3 | | 1/2 kk1 | |
| II. kk1 | | | | kk1 | | | |
| III. DB1 or tum5 kpy. | | | | DB1 or tum5 kpy | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|-----------|-----|---|-----|-----------|
| 6 | 3 | 2 | $\hat{3}$ | 1 | 1 | 6 | $\hat{6}$ |
| I. tum3 | | | | gt1 | | gt6 | |
| II. kk3 (high) or DK3 | | | | gt1 | | gt6 | |
| III. Putut semedi | | | | gt1 | | gt6 | |

| | | | |
|------------|---|------|-------------------|
| $\hat{2}$ | 6 | 5 | $\textcircled{3}$ |
| I. 1/2 jk6 | | tum3 | |
| II. tum3 | | | |
| III. tum3 | | | |

Note: cengkok names are from my book on beginning gender playing, "Lessons with Sukamso," available from the American Gamelan Institute Library at www.gamelan.org and at the link below.

LESSONS WITH SUKAMSO
a year of transcriptions by Larry Polansky

Gender introduction: mbalung

1. Oh there was a mighty ship, and she sailed upon the sea
And she went by the name, of the Golden Vanity
And she feared she would be taken, by the Spanish enemy
And they'd sink her in the lowlands, in the lowlands
They'd sink her in the lowlands, low.

gender mbalung freely
all other instruments tacet

2. Then up jumped the cabin boy, and boldly up spake he
And he said to the captain, what will you give to me
If I swim along the side of the Spanish enemy
And I sink her in the lowlands, in the lowlands
I sink her in the lowlands, low.

gender: irama tanggung
add slenthem

3. Well I will give you silver, and I will give you gold
And my fair young daughter, she will be yours to hold
If you swim along the side of the Spanish enemy
And you sink her in the lowlands, in the lowlands
You sink her in the lowlands, low.

gender: irama dados
slenthem, slight variations
add gong and kenong

4. Well up jumped the cabin boy, overboard went he
And he swam along the side of the Spanish enemy
And with his pick and auger, he made him holes three
And he sank her in the lowlands, in the lowlands
He sank her in the lowlands, low.

gender: irama dados w/variations
full gamelan
add voices on final lines

5. gender solo, wilet, one complete verse . . .

full gamelan, no vocal

6. Well captain, oh captain, now take me back on board

gender: irama wilet

For I have been just as good as my word

other instruments continue

I swam along the side of the Spanish enemy

to play until last verse

And I sank her in the lowlands, in the lowlands

I sank her in the lowlands, low.

7. Well this said the captain, to that brave cabin boy

gender: irama wilet

Never, oh never, will I take you back on board

And you and my daughter, well never that will be

I will leave you in the lowlands, in the lowlands

I'll leave you in the lowlands, low.

8. Well up spake the cabin boy, captain, said he

gender: irama wilet

If I didn't love your daughter, then just like the enemy

I'd take my pick and auger, and captain you would see

I would sink you in the lowlands, in the lowlands

I'd sink you in the lowlands, low.

9. He turned his back on them, and swam away did he

gender: mbalung

And he swam far away, from the Golden Vanity

all other instruments silent until

And he sunk himself way down, to the bottom of the sea

final gong . . .

And he drowned in the lowlands, in the lowlands

He drowned in the lowlands, low.

The following is a transcription of the first verse of *Lholands*. As in a traditional sea shanty, the specific rhythms may be adjusted for each verse while following the overall contour of the melody. The singer may also take some liberty with syncopations.

. 6 . 3 . 2 . ¹ . 6 . 3 . 5 . ¹
 . 1 1 6 . 66 5 3 . 1 1 2 . 33 2 1 . 1 3 6 . 6 . 53 . 3 . 35 5 5 2 1
 Oh there was a mighty ship, and she sailed upon the sea, And she went by the name of the Golden Va-ni-ty,
 . 6 . 3 . 2 . ³ . 1 . 1 . 6 . 6
 . 1 3 6 . 66 5 31 . . 112 3 3 5 3 . 6 6 1 11 . 2 1 . . . 6 . 3 5 6
 And she feared she would be taken by the Spanish e-ne-my, And they'd sink her in the low-lands, in the low-
 . ² . 6 . 5 . (3)
 . 5 3 7 . ¹ . 6 6 653 5 . 6 . 3
 lands, They'd sink her in the low lands, low.

For some slendro gamelan, this tune might be in F# major. The staff notation below is presented in F Major for ease of reading, and does not imply any specific pitches.

Oh there was a mighty ship, and she sailed upon the sea, And she went by the name of the Golden Vanity, And she feared she would be taken by the Spanish enemy, And they'd sink her in the low-lands, in the low-lands, They'd sink her in the low-lands, low.

This page by Sean Hayward.