

## **Conductor's Notes – Who Will Buy – Lionel Bart; arr Norman Leyden**

**Background:** From the musical *Oliver*, this piece opens with soloists singing old street cries, (measures 1-8); there is a gradual building with accelerated tempos when the choir takes the lead in the main melody 9-13; then tempo slows as the street cries return to bring the song to a close. This is like a “quiet dawn” to “full sunrise”, back to “quiet dawn” – in dynamics, tempo, and mood.

**“ooh” section:** breathe at phrase endings as indicated – or use “staggered” breathing; follow dynamics as indicated – this will help in phrase shaping; last two pages – sing very legato; except for last four measures – marcato on text – “who will buy”

**tempo:** watch conductor carefully for tempo changes throughout; especially on pages 7-14 and particularly at the bottom of page 13

**diction:** this should be as British as possible; drop the “r”s when followed by a consonant or a silent “e” at the end of a word (leisure, treasure); “won-duh-ful maw-ning” “faw me”(for me)

**phrasing/dynamics:** page 7 and 8 - crescendo through “who will buy”, “such a sky”, “who will tie”, no breath after “buy” and “tie”;  
page 11 – letter G – no breath after “do”;  
men observe staccatos and accents on page 11 – letter H; women legato pages 11-13

**articulation** – this is carefully indicated in the score with phrase markings, marcatos, staccatos