He Cried Uncle
an opera in one act

Seth W. Colaner
2006
Cast:

Timothy...........................Baritone
Uncle Virgil.......................Tenor
Angela/Offstage Mezzo............Mezzo-soprano
Guest #1/Guard/Offstage Sop. 1....Soprano
Guest#2/Pedro Gonzalez............Tenor
Offstage Sop. 2...................Soprano

Instrumentation:

Soprano Sax in Bb
Alto Sax in Eb
Tenor Sax in Bb
Baritone Sax in Eb
Crotales
Percussion 1
   -Temple Blocks (5)
   -Brake Drums (2)
Percussion 2
   -Cymbal
   -Snare Drum
   -Conga
   -Bass Drum

8-channel audio playback
   -A computer with software capable of playing back eight channels of audio simultaneously and eight speakers are required. In the event eight channels are unavailable, a stereo version is provided which may be played back via CD.
Transposed Score

He Cried Uncle

Prologue

S.W. Colaner

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Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Mezzo-soprano

Soprano Sax. in Bb

Alto Sax. in Eb

Tenor Sax. in Bb

Baritone Sax. in Eb

Crotales

Percussion 2

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Sop. 1

Sop. 2

Mezz.

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 2

whispers

Player 2 to Perc. 2

Player 2 to Crot.
Welcome to the Neighborhood

Lights up: T enters from kitchen A enters from behind CR

Hi there.

A. place, didn’t you? As-ge-is. Wel come to the

V.

T. Yes, just yesterday. Tim-othy.

S. Sax. in Eb

A. Sax. in Eb

T. Sax. in Eb

B. Sax. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

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He Cried Uncle

A. neighbor-hood. Are you fixing up the place?

V. mf

T. Thanks! Yes... hard times it needs help.

S. Ex. in Eb

A. Ex. in Eb

T. Ex. in Eb

B. Ex. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

When I am done it will be a bed and breakfast.

I have always wanted to

He Cried Uncle

A. mf

V. How nice!

T. When I am done it will be a bed and breakfast.

S. Ex. in Eb

A. Ex. in Eb

T. Ex. in Eb

B. Ex. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2
He Cried Uncle

rem - o - nate my house, to make a place of rest and sol - i - tude... This is maybe my last

chance... For as this is not simply an old house.

simply an old house.
He Cried Uncle

A. Sx. in Bb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

No, my old Uncle Virgil lives here as well. He's a millio...
Have a soft spot for the rich and lowly; do you think visitors would do him good?

Sure, any time. Visit at your own risk.

He Cried Uncle
Well... nice to meet you. So, yes. I should get back to work. There is much to do... oh... and thanks for the...
A. Nice to meet you. Tis - a - thy. And please tell your uncle

V. nice to meet you.

T. You too.

S. Ex. in Eb

A. Ex. in Eb

T. Ex. in Eb

B. Ex. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

A exits behind SR; T enters house; V enters from behind SL.

Crt.

A. that I will be visit ing soon.

V.

T. Will do.

S. Ex. in Eb

A. Ex. in Eb

T. Ex. in Eb

B. Ex. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

He Cried Uncle
101

A.  mf

V.  mf

He Cried Uncle
T kneels down and begins fixing wall

T rises

T.

Who was that?
What did she want?
Neigh-bor, Uncle Virgil. Nice lady.
Just

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 2

Perc. 1

B. Sx. in Eb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Player 1
to Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 1
to Crotales

T.

Saying hello.
You missed a spot.
You’re doing it wrong.
You should

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 1

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 2

S. Sx. in Eb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Eb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Player 1
to Crotales

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

A.

 mf

V.

 mf

You. missing a spot.
You’re doing it wrong.
You should

T.

saying hello.
You’re doing it wrong. Would you like to take over and do it right?

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 1

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 2

S. Sx. in Eb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Eb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Player 1
to Crotales

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

A.

 mf

V.

 mf

You. missing a spot.
You’re doing it wrong.
You should

T.

saying hello.
You’re doing it wrong. Would you like to take over and do it right?

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 1

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 2

S. Sx. in Eb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Eb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Player 1
to Crotales

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

A.

 mf

V.

 mf

You. missing a spot.
You’re doing it wrong.
You should

T.

saying hello.
You’re doing it wrong. Would you like to take over and do it right?

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 1

S. Sx. in Eb

Perc. 2

S. Sx. in Eb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Eb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Player 1
to Crotales

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

A.

 mf

V.

 mf

You. missing a spot.
You’re doing it wrong.
You should

T.

saying hello.
You’re doing it wrong. Would you like to take over and do it right?
A. Sx. in Bb
A. Sx. in Eb
T. Sx. in Bb
B. Sx. in Eb
Crt.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

V.
not an old man

T.
set down on his knees and hands

S. Ex.
in Eb

to set down on his knees and hands

T. Ex.
in Eb

E. Sx.
in Eb

He Cried Uncle

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T kneels and resumes work

(T exits kitchen; V exits behind SL)
**Incidental Music No.1**

*S.W. Colaner*

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**He Cried Uncle**

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**Transposed Score**

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He Cried Uncle
Scene 2: The B&B is Running Smoothly

S.W. Colaner
Yesterday I quit my job.
A knocks on the door; T opens it

T realizes it is A

Timothy, how are you today?

I'm not sure... is he around?

A. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

T. Sx. in Eb

D. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

A. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

T. Sx. in Eb

D. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

I'm not sure... is he around?
A moves to sit by V; T grabs coffee and brings it to A & V

Does Virgil want some?

T pours coffee for A

T replaces coffeepot

A. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt. Bow

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Same place as always.

Would you like some coffee?

Would you like some coffee?

Thanks.

Would you like some coffee?

Would you like some coffee?

Yes, please.

Would you like some coffee?

Would you like some coffee?
He Cried Uncle

A. A sips coffee

V. He makes it all wrong. It tastes and smells like runny eagle.

T. clear that he makes my coffee.

S. Sx. in Bb gradually smaller vib

A. Sx. in Eb gradually smaller vib

T. Sx. in Bb gradually smaller vib

B. Sx. in Eb gradually wider vib

Crt.

Perc. 1 Player 1 to Perc. 1

Perc. 2 Player 2 to Perc. 2

Perc. 2

A. It seems fine tome...

V. it seems fine tome...

T. An gel a oft en comes to visit.

A. Sx. in Bb no vib.

A. Sx. in Eb no vib.

T. Sx. in Bb no vib.

B. Sx. in Eb no vib.

Crt.

Player 1 to crotales

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

A. He Cried Uncle

V. 21
A.

V.

T. I’m glad she came, to see it, the old man, on the

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

bow Player 1 to Perc. 1

He Cried Uncle
He Cried Uncle

B & B is running smoothly.

Yesterday I quit my job editing papers.
He Cried Uncle
88  &  88

A. V. T.

S. Sx. in Bb
A. Sx. in Eb
T. Sx. in Bb
B. Sx. in Eb
Crt.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

I'm too old." but his room is always clean and tidy.

Player 1 to crotales
Player 2 to Perc. 1
He Cried Uncle

Player 1 to Perc. 1
Player 2 to Perc. 2

mf

bow
Lights down;
A & V wait
behind SL;
T exits
kitchen

He Cried Uncle

On.

Yes ter
day I quit my job!
V's chair is at the table; his place is set with a full, untouched plate

Lights up; T enters from kitchen; T puts V's chair back & clears table

Lights up; T exits kitchen
Transposed Score

He Cried Uncle

Scene 3: Montage

S.W. Colaner

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Lights up; table set for four

V: T is fixing a wall outlet

T: (3+2, sempre)

Soprano Sax. in Bb

Alto Sax. in Eb

Tenor Sax. in Bb

Baritone Sax. in Eb

Crotales

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Damn it!

You will nev-er make it work right...

T gets electrical shock

T: Ouch!

S. Sax. in Bb

A. Sax. in Eb

T. Sax. in Bb

B. Sax. in Eb

Crotale

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

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He Cried Uncle

Scene 3: Montage

V.: (3+2, sempre)

T: Damn it!

Lights up; table set for four

V: T is fixing a wall outlet

T: (3+2, sempre)

Soprano Sax. in Bb

Alto Sax. in Eb

Tenor Sax. in Bb

Baritone Sax. in Eb

Crotales

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Damn it!

You will nev-er make it work right...

T gets electrical shock

T: Ouch!

S. Sax. in Bb

A. Sax. in Eb

T. Sax. in Bb

B. Sax. in Eb

Crotale

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

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V. V laughs

You have to turn the power off dumb-ass!

(sarcastically) f

T. Thank you for telling me.

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

whispers F!

V. Guests enter from door and sit

T. T & V move to table;

V laughs

T & V move to table;

T dons a nice sweater

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

31

slp slp

He Cried Uncle
V. I hope your breakfast is all right. The eggs? The

T. It looks rotten. toast? I'm sure the fruit is fresh. It looks rotten. I think the fruit is fine! I think the

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

He Cried Uncle
This

This
T attempts to clear table

place is a dump! Why can’t you keep it clean? An old man

place is a dump!

I do the best I can.

could get disease from this filth!

I do the best I can? Maybe you could help.

V stands
V. old man? You're being inefficient.

T. old man? Thank you for your input!

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

V. f I’ll catch my death here! In-fluen-za, whooping cough, pneu-monia, mai-

T. n how how how

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

He Cried Uncle 35
There you are. I trust you en-
V.

That's impossible! Of course you bothered them.

Joyed your stay, that's impossible! I hope nobody bothered you... Of course you bothered them. Come back and...

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

75  

We won't be here long; the place will be con-demned soon.

The house is fine!

V.

Guests exit door and behind (SR)

T.

see us soon!

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2
I've had enough of your mouth! This is my house, and I will be a success!

Influenza, whooping cough, pneumonia, leprosy, cancer of the lung, rickets...

This will be my house—until the day I die.

Then, hurry up and die!
Transposed Score

He Cried Uncle
Incidental Music No.3

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Baritone Sax. in Eb

Crotales

Player 1

Player 2

Table empty

Lights up; V is sitting in his chair, glaring at the audience

S.W. Colaner

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**Transposed Score**

**He Cried Uncle**

**Scene 4: Snap**

S.W. Colaner

- **Guest #1**
- **Virgil**
- **Tightly**
- **Soprano Sax., in Bb**
- **Alto Sax., in Bb**
- **Tenor Sax., in Bb**
- **Baritone Sax., in Bb**
- **Crotales**
- **Percussion 1**
- **Percussion 2**

**Lights up; table set for five; Guests seated at table w/ T & A, V in usual spot**

**Baritone Sax.**

**Percussion 2**

**Soprano Sax.**

**Crt.**

**Guest #1**

**Guest #2**

**Virgil**

**Tightly**

**Soprano Sax., in Bb**

**Alto Sax., in Bb**

**Tenor Sax., in Bb**

**Baritone Sax., in Bb**

**Crotales**

**Percussion 1**

**Percussion 2**

**S.W. Colaner**

**Dear, it's very**

**It's**

**It's great!**

**It's**

**It's**

**It's**

**It's**

**You in your room? I wasn't talking to you. Thank you.**

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He Cried Uncle

You will never dare!

Don't push it, old man! I will throw you out of this house!

You would never done!

You would never dare!
...sit down, eat the food have a nice conversation... You will also like the orange juice.

He Cried Uncle

T & V go back to the table
so glad to hear you say that.
He Cried Uncle

Scene 5: The Bitter Truth

Lights up; Guard is seated at desk;
T is sitting at a table in prison clothes

"He was your damn patient!"

ca. 1:15

breathy, scratchy, aeolian

ca. 1:30

breathy, scratchy, aeolian

ca. 1:45

"...because he wasn't there."

ca. 1:40

scratchy

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"Wait...don't...then who did I kill?"

breathy, scratchy, aeolian  normal tone
cutoff -- ca. 3:40

2:00 2:30 3:00

S. Sx. in Bb
breathy, scratchy, aeolian ca. 2:15
breathy, scratchy, aeolian ca. 2:45

A. Sx. 2 in Eb
ca. 2:00:00
breathy, scratchy, aeolian
breathy, scratchy, aeolian

T. Sx. in Bb
c. 2:15
breathy, scratchy, aeolian

B. Sx. in Eb
c. 2:30
breathy, scratchy, aeolian

Crt.
c. 2:45

perc. 2

c. 3:00

S. Sx. in Bb

A. Sx. 2 in Eb

T. Sx. in Bb

B. Sx. in Eb

Crt.

perc. 2

"Wait...don't...then who did I kill?!"