

Bristow, G.F. Rip Van Winkle

Cast of Characters:

Rip Van Winkle - a farmer in the Catskill Mountains - Bass

Dame Van Winkle - Rip's wife - Contralto

Alice Van Winkle - Rip's daughter - Soprano

Edward Gardinier - a Captain in the Continental Army - Tenor

Herman Van Slaus - son of the village Burgomaster - Baritone

Plot Synopsis:

Act I:

Time: 1763; Setting: a village in the Catskill Mountains; woods

Rip Van Winkle, a hen-pecked husband, signs a contract with Diedrich Van Slaus, the Burgomaster, agreeing that his daughter and fortune (meaning his farm) shall go to Diedrich's son Herman as marriage dowry unless Rip annuls the contract within 20 years and a day. That same day, after a fight with his wife, he goes hunting in a storm and comes upon a group of spirits in a glen. Rip drinks with them and falls into his famous 20-year sleep.

Act II:

Time: 1783, just after the Revolutionary War; Setting: same village; an army camp

Meanwhile, Alice, Rip's now-full-grown daughter, love Edward, a Captain in the Continental Army. When Herman presses his claim on her, she runs away to join Edward's (and her brother's) battalion as a vivandiere (food provisioner). Herman follows secretly, intending to kill Edward, but is caught and almost slain by Edward's loyal troops.

Act III:

Time: 1783, 20 years to-the-day from when Rip fell asleep;

Setting: woods; same village

Rip wakes up, goes home, and is distraught that no-one knows him and that all of his friends (and his wife) are dead. When he introduces himself as a loyal subject of King George, the villagers try to attack him, but Alice, who doesn't recognize him, protects him. When Herman presents the contract in court the next day, Rip realizes that it is his to annul, and he does so by ripping it up. He is reunited with his son and daughter, and blesses her marriage to Edward. Everyone rejoices.

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Aria. Alas! they know me not. (Act III)

RIP VAN WINKLE.

Andante Affettuoso.

con espress.

No.
22.

mf

molto sostenuto.

STRINGS. *mf*

SOLD CORNO.

A - las! a-las, they know me

p

not, Strangers are they are they... to me... Am I my-self or am I

OB. CLAR.

CORNO.

con anima.

crese

not... What can the matter, What can the matter be?... Am I my-self or am I

TUTTI.

crese

f *dim rit* *mf a tempo.*

not, What can the mater, What can the matter be? *p* With-

CORNO.

sf *f* *dim rit*

in the sphere of many a mile, Full eve-ry one I know, Not

CLAR. OBOE.

p

con passion.

one not one of these give me a

cresc. *f* *dim*

TUTTI.

poco animato e agitato.

smile, Strange fears up-on me grow, Strange

OB. FAC.

fears up-on me grow, Strange fears up-on me

cresc. *poco cresc.*

grow, Strange fears, strange fears up - on ... me grow, up - tempo: *ff* *dim.*

f *esce* *ff* *rit* *dim.*

FL. TUTTI.

- on me grow... *p* *mf*

CORN. CLAR. FAG. A-

con espress.

- las! a-las, they know me not, Strangers are they, are they... to me, ... Am I my-

pp

con anima.

- self or am I not, What can the matter, What can the matter be?... Am I my-

erese *f* *dim* *mf* *tempo.*

self, or am I not, What can the matter, What can the matter be? Am I my-

TUTTI. CORNO.

erese *sf* *rit* *mf* *tempo.*

-self or am I not? Am I my self or am I not?..... What

TUTTI. CORNO.

f

mf *a piacere.* *dim* *rit*

can..... the mat - - - ter be, What can the mat - - - ter

p *pp*

tempo. *pp* (Exit Rip.)

be?.....

tempo. *dim* *pp*

p *legato.*