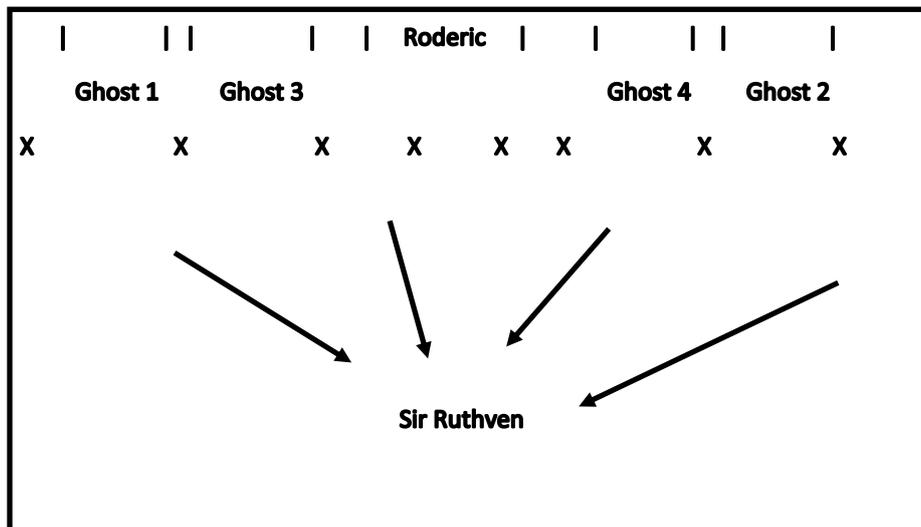
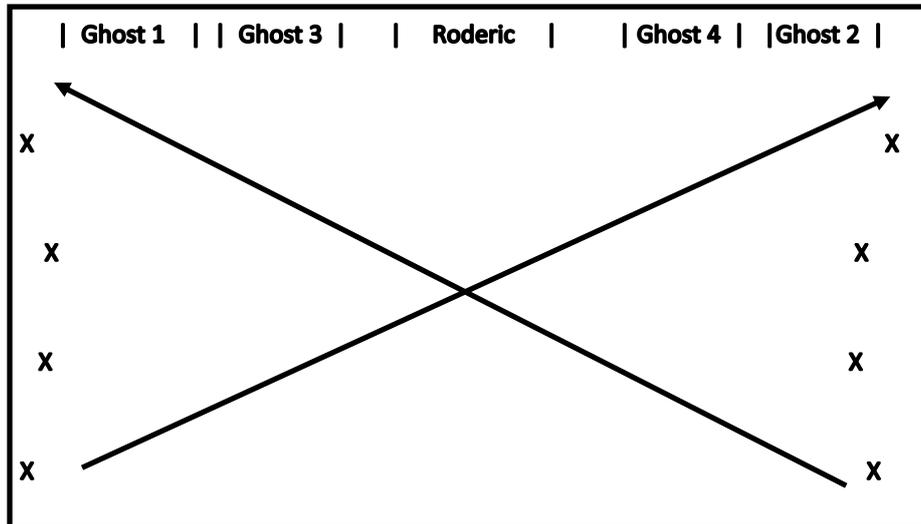


# Gents Notes

## 1. Painted Emblems

Ghosts 1-4 and Roderic are in frames at beginning of introduction. Ghosts 1-4 open frames on dramatic music. Other gents creep on from wings. Not full on zombie walking, but slightly strange movement.

After first verse ghosts move in a line, crossing each other centre stage to create a line up in front of the portraits. Portrait ghosts climb down to join them at ground level.



Start to move forwards when you sing. Point to Sir R on "Down upon the oaken floor". Advance on Sir Ruthven clawing at him on list of insults. Some dropping to the floor, others crowding over him. Lots of menace. Then engulf him and force him upstage and up the steps to Roderic so he's in position for a hand on his shoulder. Move out of the way and fill the sides of the stage.

## 2. When The Night Wind Howls

Verse 1:

Join hands in a chain and spiral round and round Sir R excitedly into a tight group. Scoop him up and carry him shoulder high around the stage. Drop him at Sir Roderic on first “Ha Ha” and line up in smart choral formation– creating sudden order from the chaos.

Verse 2:

Some ghosts are acting as the wind with arms flailing to frame Roderic DSL as he sings. USR 3 ghosts in slow motion pummelling of Sir Ruthven.

“And away they go” all move into a space on stage.

“For cockcrow limits our holiday...” Rag doll/marionette dance. Jump on “Ha Ha” and land in a crouch at a level comfortable for you.

Stand up straight on second “Ha Ha” and walk centre stage for repeat of smart choral formation.

Verse 3:

In pairs, holding hand as though man and lady move to line up facing one another along the back. Air kiss on beat after “with a kiss perhaps” then both cheeks on beat after “with her lantern chaps”.

“Lady” turn by right shoulder to fall into line now all facing front. Sit Ruthven is spun down the line. When he passes move into a space.

“And ushers in our next high holiday...” Rag doll/marionette dance as before and move into choral positions again. And sing with gusto to the end.

Dialogue:

On applause move back to the 2 staggered lines across the back of the stage. React audibly to dialogue. “perish in inconceivable AGONIES”. Raise right hand with index finger in the air (BeeGees style).

Waggle finger on “Let the agonies commence”)

“It gets worse by degrees...” move right arm down and and tickle with palm up.

### **3. He Yields**

General excitement and moving forwards towards the Principals on first lines.

Ghosts 1-4 walk through gaps to clap Sir Ruthven on the back on first "Sturdy Fellow" then file off SL & SR back to the back row. Other ghosts walk in to clap Sir Ruthven on second "Sturdy".

1x "we want your pardon" front row ghosts bow on "ere you go"

2x Ghosts 1-4 walk through gap on "we want..." and bow on "ere you go".

So pardon us—skip forwards

So pardon us—skip backwards

So pardon us—skip forwards

Or die—aggressive point to Sir Ruthven

So pardon us—skip backwards

So pardon us—skip forwards

So pardon us—skip backwards

Or die—aggressive point to Sir Ruthven

"I pardon you" - general excitement

"He pardons us" - dance a jig with nearby ghosts.

### **4. Painted Emblems reprise**

General rejoicing and dancing slows down and ghosts slowly and strangely reverse to their entrance positions at the wings or into frames.

Melt off in final bars.