Limbs Akimbo

for tap dancing and reciting pianist
and
electronic soundtrack

Music by Randall Woolf
Text by Valeria Vasilevski
The electronic soundtrack is recorded on a CD. No clicktrack is needed.
soundtrack introduction:
bell sounds fade up
1st scraping sound
2nd scraping sound
Piano on soundtrack:

Music: Randall Woolf
Script: Valeria Vasilevski:

Limbs Akimbo
for Anthony De Mare

va

veiled, smooth

marcato

p semplice
Dear Diary:

on beat 3:

August 4th

I just got back from my piano lesson and it’s settled, dot dot dot, quote marks

(spoken text should line up more or less as it does visually)

spoken, very serious:

up-beat to beat 4:

on beat 3:

I just got back from my piano lesson and it’s settled, dot dot dot, quote marks

(spoken text must end in this bar)

“I solemnly vow to do nothing for the next 10 years but devote my heart and soul to the piano”

(loud and nervous):

(flat)

or is it “quote marks”?

exclamation point

end of quote marks

martellato
I solemnly vow

I can't do nothing

for the next ten years

but devote my heart

to the piano.

I've given up dance.

and music is superior.

I can't DO both,
Dear Diary:

I just ran into Miss Charise, from tap class?

I can’t even think of the piano when tap gets me going.

Miss Charise says I’m her best tapper.
besides, the piano is very, very square.
recite freely but end where indicated:

Gee Butch, I sure wish I could make up my mind. I know you want me not to do it real bad. And I want to stop real bad too but...you're going to think this is really strange but I can't stop my hands.

Yeah! Yeah I know you heard this before. I try not to touch it. When the urge gets too strong I run out the door. I pace around in public places where I won't be tempted but phooey...well...I'm weak and nothing seems to work. Oh Butch!
Then I get home (pause) I take one look at that big thing (pause) and I begin to touch (pause) and tickle (pause) and mom and dad not to, I jump on my black (pause) leather bench (pause) and boogie!
from mere to m. 218 should be very funny, act as if your feet have a mind of their own, à la Steve Martin.
at the end of tap outburst 4, turn to the audience and say

TAP OUTBURST #4

Say! what am I yappin’ about! Butch! Butch! don’t go!

the furthest-away longest tap—very comic and exaggerated

bluesy (soundtrack is tacet until m.235)  p

read the text very freely over this music. kepp the boxed phrases intact, but place them as you wish.

Gee you’re a nice kid.

I’m better now.

All of that’s out of my system.

Good riddance.

Behind me, see.

Here, have a look at these neat shoes.

p sensual and luxurious
Feel this...leather...soft hmmm. Slip them on my feet Butchy. The right one first. Yeah Yeah. Tie the little ties. Tighter. Oh I can’t wait. I can’t wait. Click slap snap. Not too tight...there. Now that’s me.

Tap Explosion: run around the auditorium tapping and gesturing madly, accompanied by the piano on the soundtrack

Piano on soundtrack:

(start CD again here)
Butch! Butchy??

Butch! Butchy??

Recite the text freely:

Butch! Butchy??

Butch! Butchy??

Butch! Butchy??

Gave me the slip when I wasn’t looking, huh? Back to Dayton who could blame him. Think he wants to collect nickels at the candy store all his life supporting a shiftless bum, a low-rent vaudevillian like me who can’t decide whether he wants to be a starving pianist playing high school gyms in Shamokin or a starving tap dancer in two-bit riverfront dives. I’m just a no-good rat of a guy.
play m. 281-2, repeating over and while reciting the text.

But hey, I got more rhythms in my feet than Heinz got tomatoes and I got melodious passages pulsing through my fingers like steam in a January radiator.

At the end of the above text, (repeat the following 2 sentences over and over, faster and faster becoming increasingly maniacal, until at the end you are ready to explode. All the while, continue to play m. 281-2 faster and faster. When you finish repeating the sentences, continue without interruption to m. 283.

If I could just play while I tap. If I could just tap while I play.

repeat about 13 times in total

sempre accelerando to "as fast as possible"

281

Rit. and dim.

283

(The soundtrack should stop about here.)

(soundtrack tacet to end)

start text around here:

I'm not going to be a rinky-dink piano player

I'm not goin' to be some cheese-and-balony tapper
I'm going to double my dares and do both!

Good-bye Butch!

very sad and slow, ethereal

Rit., dim.

So long, mom!
So long, dad!
See Ya in the movies!
exclamation mark!

I'm going to double my dares and do both!