

Epitaph

for Wind Ensemble

Talia Berenbaum

Transposing Score

2023

Instrumentation

Piccolo

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

English Horn in F

2 Bassoons

3 Clarinets in Bb

Bass Clarinet in Bb

2 Alto Saxophones in Eb

Tenor Saxophone in Bb

Baritone Saxophone in Eb

3 Trumpets in Bb

4 Horns in F

3 Trombones (2 tenor 1 bass)

Euphonium (in C)

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion 1 (Crotales, Vibraphone, Tam-Tam)

Percussion 2 (Tubular Bells, Water Gong)

Percussion 3 (Bell Tree, Bass Drum)

Percussion 4 (Toms, Glockenspiel)

Percussion Setup

Percussion 1

Must be set up so that Crotales and Vibraphone can be played simultaneously, one with each hand.

Percussion 2

Water Gong: A small gong (roughly 16-24" in diameter) which is held with one hand and dipped into water to lower the pitch. Glissando denotes the lowering/raising of the gong while it is still sounding.

Notes from the Composer

This piece was composed after a Yiddish poem by Anna Margolin (née. Rosa Lebensboim) entitled "Epitaph." In it, a deceased speaker laments that her life was "wasted on rubbish, on nothing." She feels both cold, removed self pity and debilitating regret and disgust. At the poet's request it was inscribed upon her grave, which leads me to believe that this poem was of great personal significance.

In this piece, I endeavored to capture these core feelings and translate them into music. The form of the piece follows the emotional arch of the poem: regretful but almost unfeeling, then intense disgust, then a return back into self pity.

This piece also references the Hebrew prayer *אבינו מלכינו* (*avinu malkeinu*), a prayer asking for forgiveness. While the poem makes no reference to forgiveness, I included one because I felt that the speaker of this poem deserved to forgive herself for having "wasted" her life, and that, in a strange sense, it would be a form of kindness.

Epitaph

Transposed Score

Talia Berenbaum

Pensive ♩ = 42

Piccolo

Flute 1.2

Oboe 1.2

English Horn

Bassoon 1.2

Clarinet in Bb 1.2

Clarinet in Bb 3

Bass Clarinet

Alto Saxophone 1.2

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

Trumpet in Bb 1.2.3

French Horn in F 1.2

French Horn in F 3.4

Trombone 1.2

Trombone 3

Euphonium

Tuba

Timpani

Vibraphone

Crotales

Percussion 2

Bass Drum

Bell Tree

Toms

Percussion 4

Eb, B, D

senza vib.

p sempre

a 2

breathy

ppp < pp >

ppp < pp >

ppp

mp

ppp

gliss

molto

mf

mp

sneak in

n

mf

mp

mf

ppp

mp

mf

p

p

p

repeat out of time in any order

repeat out of time in any order

repeat out of time in any order

Percussion 1

Percussion 3

15

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Bsn 1
2

Cl. in Bb 1
2

Cl. in Bb 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1
2

T. Sax.

F. Hn in F 1
2

F. Hn in F 3
4

Timp.

Vib.

Crot.

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

f

n

mp

molto vib.

pp

mf

p

ppp

pp

mf

ppp

mp

mp

mp

Bell Tree

Glockenspiel

To Toms

molto rall *Furious* ♩ = 128

50

48 *molto rall* *Furious* ♩ = 128

50

Picc. *f* *ff* *mf*

Fl. 1 *f* *ff* *mf*

Fl. 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

Ob. 1 *f* *ff* *mf*

Ob. 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

Eng. Hn *f* *ff* *mf*

Bsn 1 *f* *ff* *mf*

Bsn 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

Cl. in Bb 1 *f* *ff* *mf*

Cl. in Bb 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

Cl. in Bb 3 *f* *ff* *mf*

B. Cl. *f* *ff* *mf*

A. Sax. 1 *ff* *ff* *mf*

A. Sax. 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

T. Sax. *f* *ff* *mf*

Bar. Sax. *f* *ff* *mf*

Tpt in Bb 1 *f* *ff* *mf*

Tpt in Bb 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

Tpt in Bb 3 *f* *ff* *mf*

F. Hn in F 1 *f* *ff* *mf*

F. Hn in F 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

F. Hn in F 3 *f* *ff* *mf*

F. Hn in F 4 *f* *ff* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *f* *ff* *mf*

Tbn. 2 *f* *ff* *mf*

Tbn. 3 *f* *ff* *mf*

Euph. *f* *ff* *mf*

Tba *f* *ff* *mf*

Timp. *f* *ff* *mf*

Perc. 1 *p* *molto* *ff* *l.v. sempre*

Perc. 2 *p* *molto* *ff* *l.v. sempre*

Perc. 3 *p* *molto* *ff*

Perc. 4 *p* *molto* *ff*

open

6

This musical score, titled "Epitaph", is for a full orchestra and includes parts for woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The score begins at measure 52. The woodwind section includes Piccolo (Picc.), Flute 1 (Fl. 1), Flute 2 (Fl. 2), Oboe 1 (Ob. 1), Oboe 2 (Ob. 2), English Horn (Eng. Hn), Bassoon 1 & 2 (Bsn. 1,2), Clarinet in Bb 1, Clarinet in Bb 2, Clarinet in Bb 3, Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone 1 & 2 (A. Sax. 1,2), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.). The brass section includes Trumpet in Bb 1 & 2, Trumpet in Bb 3, French Horn in F 1 & 2, French Horn in F 3 & 4, Trombone 1 & 2 (Tbn. 1,2), Trombone 3 (Tbn. 3), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba (Tba.). The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), Percussion 3 (Perc. 3), and Percussion 4 (Perc. 4). The score features several dynamic markings, including fortissimo (ff), mezzo-forte (mf), and piano (p). There are also performance instructions such as "repeat out of time" with arrows indicating the direction of the repeat. The woodwind parts have several passages boxed in black, indicating specific musical motifs. The percussion parts include glissando markings and various rhythmic patterns. The score concludes with a final dynamic marking of fortissimo (ff).

This musical score, titled "Epitaph", is arranged for a full orchestra. The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes the Piccolo (Picc.), Flute 2 (Fl. 2), Oboe 1 (Ob. 1), Oboe 2 (Ob. 2), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Bassoon 1 & 2 (Bsn. 1.2), Clarinet in Bb 1 (Cl. in Bb 1), Clarinet in Bb 2 (Cl. in Bb 2), and Clarinet in Bb 3 (Cl. in Bb 3). The second system includes Trumpet 1 (Tbn. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tbn. 2), Trumpet 3 (Tbn. 3), Timpani (Timp.), and four Percussion parts (Perc. 1-4). The score begins at measure 59. Several woodwind parts (Picc., Fl. 2, Ob. 1, Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2, Cl. in Bb 3) feature "repeat out of time" markings. The Bassoon and Trumpet parts include dynamic markings such as *ff* and *p_v*. The Percussion parts include glissando markings. The score is written in a complex rhythmic style with many triplets and syncopated rhythms.

101

Cl. in Bb 1 2 *mp* *p sub.* *ppp* *pp* *p*

B. Cl. *mf* *mp* *p sub.* *ppp* *pp* *p > pp* *ppp* *pp* *n*

A. Sax. 1 2 *mp* *p sub.* *ppp* *pp* *p*

Bar. Sax. *mf* *p sub.* *ppp* *pp* *p > pp* *ppp* *pp*

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *pp*

Perc. 1 Tam-Tam *p*