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Title

Fridge Box Special

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Matthew Howell

Fridge Box Special

for Saxophone Quartet

2020

Fridge Box Special

for Saxophone Quartet

Duration: 11'

Fridge Box Special is the culmination of various ideas bound together during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

The music is an amalgamation of various ideas bound together by a post minimal thread: a repeating cell presented immediately in the soprano part. The music builds a rock influenced post minimal groove to support the cell before settling into a more traditional minimalist flurry of notes. This serves as the theme or A section as the basis for the overall rondo form of the work. The theme is presented in a variety of ways, from the initial post minimalism to blues to a movie score-esque treatment.

The work's inception was a rather simple one, as it stemmed from simply wanting to write another work for saxophone quartet. But this one was unique, because I started on it during spring break of 2020, as the social distancing practice was just starting to be taken seriously in light of the growing number of COVID-19 cases. As I was confined at home with very little to do, the first draft of the piece (from which very little notes would change in the final draft) was completed in a single day. Whether this was the result of a day of profound inspiration or a result of the quarantine-induced boredom is anyone's guess.

The title originally didn't mean anything and was chosen arbitrarily to give a minimal work a very large title, thus the notation on the title page. As the work progressed, it came to refer to the way the music was constructed by cobbling together various ideas with a post minimal thread, much like the process of scavenging supplies for the latest inventive meal from a limited refrigerator. The work's entire structure dissolves from a traditional rondo form as it progresses, presenting variations on the A material and blurring the lines between sections. All in all, the work is an attempt to present various styles of music idiomatic to the saxophone in a way that plays with the listener's expectations to add a little more variety to the normal post minimal formula.

(Performance Note: in the minimal sections e.g. mm. 27 – 30, the best places to breathe to maintain the dense texture are one quarter note before and after the 8th rests unless larger rests are notated elsewhere.)

83 

86 

89 

92 

95 

98 

101 

104 

109 

112 

117

Musical staff 117: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, eighth-note pattern.

120

Musical staff 120: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, eighth-note pattern followed by a whole note rest and a sharp sign.

125

Musical staff 125: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, half-note pattern with a slur and a dynamic marking *p*.

129

A Tempo ♩ = ♩

Musical staff 129: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 6/8 time signature, dynamic marking *mf*, and a 6-measure rest.

142

Musical staff 142: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 6/8 time signature, dynamic marking *mf*, and a 3-measure rest.

149

Musical staff 149: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 6/8 time signature, and a 3-measure rest.

155

Musical staff 155: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 6/8 time signature, and a 3-measure rest.

161

Musical staff 161: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 6/8 time signature, dynamic marking *f*, and a 3-measure rest.

167

Musical staff 167: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 6/8 time signature, and a 3-measure rest.

172

Musical staff 172: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 6/8 time signature, dynamic marking *f*, and a 4-measure rest.

251

254

257

260

263

266

269

272

274

277 **Swing**

321

Musical staff 321: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 4/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth and quarter notes with various rests and accidentals.

325 **Straight 8ths**

Musical staff 325: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 4/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes. A double bar line with repeat dots is at the end. A dynamic marking *f* is below the staff.

329 **Sim.**

Musical staff 329: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 3/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes. A dynamic marking *mp* is below the staff.

332

Musical staff 332: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 3/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes.

335

Musical staff 335: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 3/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes.

338

Musical staff 338: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 3/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes.

341

Musical staff 341: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 3/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes.

344

Musical staff 344: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 3/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes. A dynamic marking *p* is below the staff.

347

Musical staff 347: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 3/4 time. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes. A dynamic marking *p* is below the staff.

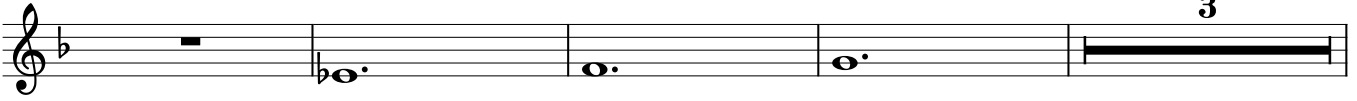
350

Musical staff 350: Treble clef, key signature of one flat, 4/4 time. Measures 1-5 contain whole notes.

356



362



369



372



376



380



384



388



391



394



397

Musical staff 397: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 1-3 contain eighth notes with accents. Measure 4 contains a quarter note with an accent.

400

Musical staff 400: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 1-3 contain eighth notes with accents. Measure 4 contains a quarter note with an accent.

403

Musical staff 403: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 1-3 contain eighth notes with accents. Measure 4 contains a quarter note with an accent.

406

Musical staff 406: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 1-3 contain eighth notes with accents. Measure 4 contains a quarter note with an accent.

409

Musical staff 409: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 1-3 contain eighth notes with accents. Measure 4 contains a quarter note with an accent.

412

Musical staff 412: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 1-3 contain eighth notes with accents. Measure 4 contains a quarter note with an accent and a forte (*f*) dynamic marking.

415

Musical staff 415: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 1-3 contain eighth notes with accents. Measure 4 contains a quarter note with an accent and a glissando (*gliss.*) marking. The staff ends with a double bar line and a forte (*ff*) dynamic marking.