

José A. Castillo

THREE CHARACTER PIECES FOR SAXOPHONE QUARTET

I. The Wizard

Approx duration: 3' 00"

II. The Troubadour

Approx duration: 4' 05"

III. The Jester

Approx duration: 2' 15"

Total duration: approx. 9' 30"

ORIGINAL PROGRAM NOTE

The character pieces in this fantastical saxophone quartet are portraits of medieval or legendary character tropes. We begin with “The Wizard”, a mirthful and valiant spell-caster who is probably engaged in some mythic fight. “The Troubadour” is a hopeless romantic and frequent traveler, companioned only by his solitude. Our journey ends with “The Jester”, a royal entertainer playing tricks at a not-too-distant court. I really enjoyed letting my imagination run free as I wrote this work and, as you listen and perform, I hope that yours will too.

PREMIERE

Premiered by the University of Texas Viridi Saxophone Quartet on November 12, 2018, in Austin, Texas. ~

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I. The Wizard

Brightly, boldly ♩ = 126

Musical score for the first system of "The Wizard". It features four staves for Soprano Sax, Alto Sax, Tenor Sax, and Baritone Sax. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as 126 beats per minute. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts begin with a sixteenth-note triplet marked with a '6' and a dynamic of *f*. They then transition to a steady eighth-note pattern with a dynamic of *mp* and the instruction *leggiero*. The Baritone Sax part starts with a whole rest and then enters with a dynamic of *f* and the instruction *con brio*.

Musical score for the second system of "The Wizard", starting at measure 4. A box containing the number '7' is positioned above the staff. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts continue with their eighth-note patterns, with dynamics of *mf* and *mp*. The Baritone Sax part continues with its *f* *con brio* pattern. The system concludes with a dynamic of *p* for all parts.

8

S. Sx. *cresc.* *f* *p* *sfz*

A. Sx. *cresc.* *mp* *p* *sfz*

T. Sx. *cresc.* *mp* *p* *sfz*

B. Sx. *cresc.* *mp* *p*

12

S. Sx. *fp* *mp*

A. Sx. *fp* *mp*

T. Sx. *fp* *mp*

B. Sx. *fp* *mp* 3

19

16

S. Sx. *p* *fp* *cresc.* *ff* *mp*

A. Sx. *p* *fp* *cresc.* *ff* *mp* 6

T. Sx. *p* *fp* *cresc.* *ff* *mp*

B. Sx. *fp* *cresc.* *ff* *mp*

20

S. Sax. *f*

A. Sax. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

T. Sax. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

B. Sax. *mf* *f*

23

S. Sax. *p* *f* *fp* *cresc.*

A. Sax. *f* *p* *f* *fp* *cresc.*

T. Sax. *f* *p* *f* *fp* *cresc.*

B. Sax. *p* *f* *fp* *cresc.*

26

27

S. Sax. *ff* *mp* *sf*

A. Sax. *ff* *mp* *mf* *sf*

T. Sax. *ff* *mp* *mf* *sf*

B. Sax. *ff* *fp* *fp*

30

S. Sax. *cresc.* *ff* *p*

A. Sax. *mf* *cresc.* *ff* *p*

T. Sax. *mf* *cresc.* *ff* *p*

B. Sax. *cresc.* *ff* *p*

37

35

S. Sax. *mf* *sf* *p*

A. Sax. *mf* *sf* *p*

T. Sax. *mf* *sf* *p*

B. Sax. *mf* *sf* *p*

38

S. Sax. *p*

A. Sax. *p*

T. Sax. *p*

B. Sax. *p*

39

S. Sax. A. Sax. T. Sax. B. Sax.

40

S. Sax. A. Sax. T. Sax. B. Sax.

mf

42

S. Sax. A. Sax. T. Sax. B. Sax.

cresc.

45

Musical score for measures 45-48, featuring four staves: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score includes dynamic markings such as *fp*, *p*, *f*, and *cresc.*, along with accents and a sixteenth-note sextuplet in the T. Sax. part at measure 47.

Musical score for measures 49-52, featuring four staves: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* and accents, along with a sixteenth-note sextuplet in the S. Sax. part at measure 49.

55

Musical score for measures 53-56, featuring four staves: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *p*, *cresc.*, and *subito p*, along with accents and hairpins.

57

S. Sax. *p* *mf* *f*

A. Sax. *p* *mf* *f*

T. Sax. *p* *mf* *f*

B. Sax. *p* *f*

61

S. Sax. *p cresc.* *poco rit.*

A. Sax. *p cresc.*

T. Sax. *p cresc.*

B. Sax. *p cresc.*

64 *a tempo*

S. Sax. *ff grandioso* 6

A. Sax. *ff grandioso* 6 3 6

T. Sax. *ff grandioso*

B. Sax. *ff grandioso*

67

S. Sax. *mp cresc.* *f*

A. Sax. *mp cresc.* *f*

T. Sax. *mp cresc.* *f*

B. Sax. *mp cresc.* *f*

71

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

74

76

S. Sax. *mp* *ff grandioso*

A. Sax. *mp* *ff grandioso*

T. Sax. *mp* *ff*

B. Sax. *mp* *ff*

79

S. Sax. *morendo* *p*

A. Sax. *morendo* *p*

T. Sax. *morendo* *p*

B. Sax. *morendo* *p*

88 (a tempo)

85

S. Sax. *f animato* *mp cresc.*

A. Sax. *mf animato* *f* *mp cresc.*

T. Sax. *mf animato* *f* *mp cresc.*

B. Sax. *mf animato* *f* *mp cresc.*

91

S. Sax. *f* *ff*

A. Sax. *f* *ff*

T. Sax. *f* *ff*

B. Sax. *f* *fp* *ff*

II. The Troubadour

Broadly, dignified ♩ = 36

95

Musical score for measures 95-98. The score is for four saxophones: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 12/8. The tempo/mood is 'Broadly, dignified' with a quarter note equal to 36 beats. The dynamics are *p semplice* for all parts, with *pp* markings for the A. Sax. and T. Sax. parts in measures 97 and 98. The S. Sax. part is mostly rests. The A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. parts feature melodic lines with slurs and dynamic hairpins.

S. Sax.

A. Sax. *p semplice* *pp*

T. Sax. *p semplice* *pp*

B. Sax. *p semplice*

99

Musical score for measures 99-101. The score is for four saxophones: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 12/8. The tempo/mood is 'Broadly, dignified' with a quarter note equal to 36 beats. The dynamics are *pp* for the T. Sax. and B. Sax. parts in measure 99, *mf* for all parts in measure 100, and *p* for all parts in measure 101. The S. Sax. part has *mf* in measure 100 and *p* in measure 101. The A. Sax. part has *mf* in measure 100 and *p* in measure 101. The T. Sax. part has *pp* in measure 99, *mf* in measure 100, and *p* in measure 101. The B. Sax. part has *pp* in measure 99, *mf* in measure 100, and *p* in measure 101. The tempo markings *accel.* and *rit.* are placed above the score for measures 100 and 101 respectively.

S. Sax. *mf* *p*

A. Sax. *mf* *p*

T. Sax. *pp* *mf* *p*

B. Sax. *pp* *mf* *p*

accel. *rit.*

a tempo

102

S. Sax. *p*

A. Sax. *p* *pp* *mf* *tr*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf* *lamentoso*

accel.

Agitated (♩. = 70)

106

S. Sax. *mf* *lamentoso* *f*

A. Sax. *mf* *f*

T. Sax. *mf* *f*

B. Sax. *p* *mf* *f*

110

S. Sax. *mp* *f* *tr* *mp* *ff*

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

T. Sax. *ff*

B. Sax. *ff*

115

Less broadly (♩ = 44)

S. Sax. *p* *mf*

A. Sax. *p* *mf*

T. Sax. *p* *mf*

B. Sax. *p* *mf*

118

S. Sax. *p cantabile*

A. Sax. *p cantabile*

T. Sax. *pp*

B. Sax. *pp*

120

S. Sax. *pp cresc.*

A. Sax. *pp cresc.*

T. Sax. *pp cresc.*

B. Sax. *pp cresc.*

122

S. Sax. *f*

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

124

126

S. Sax. *p*, *cresc.*, *mf*

A. Sax. *p*, *cresc.*, *mf*

T. Sax. *p*, *mf*

B. Sax. *p*, *mf*

127

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

128

S. Sx. *mf* *p cresc.* *sf*

A. Sx. *mf* *p cresc.* *sf*

T. Sx. *mf* *p cresc.* *sf*

B. Sx. *mf* *p cresc.* *sf*

132

130

S. Sx. *sf* *f* *pp* *mf*

A. Sx. *sf* *mf*

T. Sx. *sf* *f* *mf*

B. Sx. *sf* *f*

135

133

S. Sx. *mp espress.*

A. Sx. *p* *mp*

T. Sx. *p* *mp*

B. Sx. *p* *mp*

136

S. Sax. *cresc.* *f*

A. Sax. *cresc.* *f*

T. Sax. *cresc.* *f*

B. Sax. *cresc.* *f*

139

S. Sax. *cresc.* *ff* *mp* *pp*

A. Sax. *cresc.* *mf* *p* *pp*

T. Sax. *cresc.* *mf* *p*

B. Sax. *cresc.* *mf* *p*

143

S. Sax. *ppp*

A. Sax. *pp*

T. Sax. *pp*

B. Sax. *pp*

III. The Jester

Eccentric up-tempo; jokingly ♩ = 132 - 140

145

Musical score for measures 145-149. The score is for four saxophones: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is 'Eccentric up-tempo; jokingly' with a quarter note equal to 132-140 beats per minute. The music features dynamic markings of *f*, *mp*, *capriccioso*, *sfz*, *f*, and *ff*. There are also accents and slurs. Measure 145 starts with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. Measure 146 has a 3/4 time signature. Measure 147 has a 6/4 time signature. Measure 148 has a 3/4 time signature. Measure 149 has a 4/4 time signature.

S. Sax. *f* *mp capriccioso* *sfz* *f* *ff*

A. Sax. *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

T. Sax. *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

B. Sax. *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

150

Musical score for measures 150-154. The score is for four saxophones: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music features dynamic markings of *p*, *mf*, and *bruscamente*. There are also accents and slurs. Measure 150 starts with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. Measure 151 has a 3/4 time signature. Measure 152 has a 6/4 time signature. Measure 153 has a 3/4 time signature. Measure 154 has a 4/4 time signature.

S. Sax. *p* *mf*

A. Sax. *p* *mf*

T. Sax. *p* *mf*

B. Sax. *bruscamente* *p* *mf*

152

S. Sax. *cresc.* *subito p* *f*

A. Sax. *cresc.* *subito p* *f*

T. Sax. *cresc.* *subito p* *f*

B. Sax. *cresc.* *subito p* *f*

158

156

S. Sax. *sfz* *pp cresc.*

A. Sax. *mp* *pp* *cresc.*

T. Sax. *mp* *pp cresc.*

B. Sax. *mp* *pp cresc.*

159

S. Sax. *f*

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

163

Musical score for measures 163-165. The score is in 4/4 time and features four staves: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. Measure 163 contains a melodic line for S. Sax. with trills and a triplet. Measures 164-165 feature complex rhythmic patterns for A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. with sixteenth-note runs and triplets. Dynamics include *p*, *sfz*, and *mf*.

167

Musical score for measures 167-170. The score is in 4/4 time and features four staves: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. Measures 167-169 feature dense sixteenth-note passages for A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. with triplets and sextuplets. Measure 170 features a melodic line for S. Sax. and a trill for A. Sax. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, and *f*.

170

Musical score for measures 170-173. The score is in 4/4 time and features four staves: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. Measures 170-172 feature dense sixteenth-note passages for A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. with triplets and sextuplets. Measure 173 features a melodic line for S. Sax. and a trill for A. Sax. Dynamics include *ff* and *p*.

174

S. Sax. *f*

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

178

S. Sax. *fp* *mp* *f*

A. Sax. *pp* *mp*

T. Sax. *pp* *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

182

S. Sax. *ff*

A. Sax. *ff*

T. Sax. *p* *ff*

B. Sax. *f* *ff*

185

S. Sax. *mp*

A. Sax. *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

189

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

193

S. Sax. *mf cresc.* *f* *ff*

A. Sax. *mf cresc.* *f* *p* *ff*

T. Sax. *mf cresc.* *f* *p* *ff*

B. Sax. *mf cresc.* *f* *p* *ff*

197

Musical score for measures 197-200. The score is for four saxophones: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The dynamic marking is *mf*. The S. Sax. part features a melodic line with a slur over measures 197-198 and a trill in measure 200. The A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. parts provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns and slurs.

201

Musical score for measures 201-204. The score is for four saxophones: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The dynamic marking is *mf*. The S. Sax. part features a melodic line with a slur over measures 201-202 and a triplet in measure 203. The A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. parts provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns and slurs.

205

Musical score for measures 205-208. The score is for four saxophones: S. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The dynamic marking is *f*. The S. Sax. part features a melodic line with a slur over measures 205-206 and a triplet in measure 207. The A. Sax., T. Sax., and B. Sax. parts provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns and slurs.

209

S. Sax. *mp* *p*

A. Sax. *mp* *p*

T. Sax. *mp* *p*

B. Sax. *mp* *p*

213

S. Sax. *f* *mp* *f* *p dim.*

A. Sax. *f* *mp* *f* *p dim.*

T. Sax. *f* *mp* *f* *p dim.*

B. Sax. *f* *mp* *f* *p dim.*

220

S. Sax. *pp* *ff* *fff*

A. Sax. *pp* *ff* *fff*

T. Sax. *pp* *ff* *fff*

B. Sax. *pp* *ff* *fff* *fin.*