

Euphonium Concerto
with Strings

by
Karen Amrhein

Euphonium Concerto

My *Euphonium Concerto* with strings was composed at the invitation of English euphonist Charley Brighton and American euphonist Jason Ham.

The concerto begins with a *Daydream on a Thanksgiving Chorale* — a sort of fantasia on a hymn tune (the latter had been languishing in my piano bench since its composition in November 2002). The opening chorale, stated by the strings, concludes with the violas commencing the first "variation" — a canon in 5/8 time. This brief canon rises until it resolves on a C-Major chord, and the entrance of the euphonium. The canonic material is reworked and reprised over the next few pages — the euphonium offers a brief cadenza — and then the second "variation" is presented. This slower and somewhat pensive section is succeeded by brisk and sunny "strolling music." The canon returns — in variation — and the music grows increasingly virtuosic until the movement concludes with a reminder of the chorale tune. The daydream vanishes.

Next comes *A Song from the Seashore*, a melancholy reflection at seaside. The undulating primary theme — played by the strings alone — precedes a "medieval" exchange between the euphonium and strings, then a more virtuosic episode for the euphonium. The movement is then reversed: the modal B Section returns, followed by a variation on the primary theme — the euphonium joining in before the conclusion.

Cascades offers the euphonium player a chance to really shine. Following a cadenza-like introduction, a driving theme is introduced by the euphonium. This theme is quickly developed until a little fugue blooms. This fugue subject-and-answer resolves into a waltz-like episode, which is in turn succeeded by a jaunty skip. The fugue subject appears once more, followed by a revisitation of the theme, leading to a rousing conclusion.

The piece is about thirteen minutes in length.

Bassoonists also have my blessing to perform this concerto.

Karen Amrhein
Baltimore, Maryland
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Instrumentation

Euphonium solo

Violins 1 (8)

Violins 2 (8)

Violas (6)

Cellos (6)

Double Basses (2)

All instruments are written at pitch, except double basses sound down one octave.

String chords are non divisi, unless otherwise indicated.

♩=♩ throughout each tempo region.

Duration: 13 Minutes

Euphonium Concerto

Karen Amrhein (ASCAP)

with Strings

I. Daydream on a Thanksgiving Chorale

Chorale ♩ = 80

Euphonium

Violins 1

Violins 2

Violas

Cellos

Double Basses



6

A

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

11

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

mp

mf

mp

mf

mp

pizz.

arco



16

(B) *Daydream: Energetically* ♩ = 208

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

al niente

mf

mf

p

pizz.

arco

mf

24 (C)

Eu. *f* *mp*

Vn. 1 *f* *molto* *mp* marcato

Vn. 2 *mf* *f* *molto* *mp*

Vla. *arco* *mf* *f* *molto* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf*

D.B.

32 (D)

Eu. *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vn. 1 *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *p*

Vn. 2 *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *p*

Vla. *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *p* *mf*

D.B. *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *p* *mf*

E

40

Eu. *mp*

Vn. 1 *mf* *fp*

Vn. 2 *mf* *fp* *mp*

Vla. *pizz.* *f* *p* *arco*

Vc. *pizz.* *f* *p* *arco* *p*

D.B. *pizz.* *f* *p* *mp*



F

48

Eu. *mf mp*

Vn. 1 *mp* *fp*

Vn. 2 *fp*

Vla. *mp* *fp*

Vc. *mp* *fp* *mp*

D.B. *mp*

146 **P**

Eu. *f*

Vn. 1 *mf*

Vn. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

D.B. *mf*

II. A Song from the Seashore

Espressivo ♩ = 46

Eu.

Vn. 1 *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

Vn. 2

Vla. *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

5

A

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

p sub. *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*

p sub. *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*

p sub. *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*

p sub. *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*

p sub. *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*

p sub. *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*



9

rall.

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

13 **B** ♩ = 92

Eu. *p* *mp* *mf*

Vn. 1 *pp* *p* *div. tutti* *p* *mf* *mp*

Vn. 2 *pp* *p*

Vla. *pp* *p* *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

D.B. *pp* *p* *mp* *mf*



20 **C**

Eu. *mp* *p* *f* *mf* *mp*

Vn. 1 *solo* *mp* *mf* *mp* *tutti* *f* *mf* *mp*

Vn. 2 *mf* *f* *mf* *mp*

Vla. *mp* *p* *mp* *f* *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mp* *p* *mp* *f* *mf* *mp*

D.B. *mp* *f* *mf* *mp*

III. Cascades

Espressivo ♩ = 208

Eu. *pp* *f* *ff* *f* 3 3

Vn. 1 *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *ff* *p*

Vn. 2 *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *ff* *p*

Vla. *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *ff* *p*

Vc. *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *f* *ff* *p*

D.B. *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *f* *ff* *p*



(A)

Eu. 6 *mp* *sub.* *f* 3

Vn. 1 *molto* *mp* *sub.* *f* *al niente* *p*

Vn. 2 *molto* *mp* *sub.* *f* *al niente* *p*

Vla. *molto* *mp* *sub.* *f* *al niente* *p*

Vc. *molto* *mf* *f* *al niente* *f*

D.B. *molto* *mp* *sub.* *f* *al niente* *f*

12 *rit.* (B) *Flowing* ♩ = 144

Eu. *ff* *f* 3 *mp* sub.

Vn. 1 *ff* *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *ff*

Vn. 2 *ff* *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *ff*

Vla. *ff* *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *ff*

Vc. *ff* *p* *molto* *mf* 3 3 *ff*

D.B. *ff* *p* *molto* *mp* sub. *ff*

18

Eu. *ff* *mp* *f*

Vn. 1 *mp* *f* *ff* *mf*

Vn. 2 *mp* *f* *ff* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *f* *ff* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *f* *ff* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *f* *ff* *mf*

(C)

22

Eu. *p* *mp* *p*

Vn. 1 *ff* *mp* *p*

Vn. 2 *ff* *mp* *p*

Vla. *ff* *mp* *p* pizz. *p*

Vc. *ff* *mp* *p* pizz. *p*

D.B. *ff* *mp* *p* pizz. *p*



(D)

28

Eu. *mf* *f* *mf* *mp*

Vn. 1 *pp* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vn. 2 *pp* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vla. *pp* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *mf* *mp*

div. tutti *mf* *tutti*

f solo *arco* *arco*

44

F

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

49

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

54 G

Eu. *p* *p*

Vn. 1 *p*

Vn. 2 *p*

Vla. *p mp* *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

D.B. *p* *pp*



60 H

Eu.

Vn. 1 *pp* solo

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.