

Joshua Roach

Burst of Flight

for chamber brass

(2011)



Joshua Roach

Burst of Flight

for chamber brass

(2011)

Duration: 2:30

3 Trumpets in B-flat

1 Horn in F

1 Tenor Trombone

1 Bass Trombone

Program Note:

Burst of Flight was composed in Spring 2011 for members of the Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble. I wanted to provide students with chamber music experiences, and so we featured subsets of the ensemble during the first half of the ensemble's season finale in the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall on May 15, 2011.

The title of the work refers to the feeling of exhilaration one experiences while traveling in a fast vehicle through an open expanse. Though the word "flight" implies an aeronautical image, I am actually referring to the feeling of "flying forward" in a car through the desert of the American Southwest. Thanks to the support and generosity of my father during my final year in high school, he and I made bi-weekly road trips from Phoenix to Los Angeles so that I could take trumpet lessons in California. The ostinato in the allegro of this section was composed during one of our early morning Westward drives. When I wrote down the hemiola rhythm, I was enjoying the vastness of the arid mountains and valleys that surround the I-10 while moving at nearly eighty miles per hour.

The slow introduction was composed to achieve three goals. First, the opening wedge gesture is designed to make use of the natural homogenous timbre of instruments in the brass ensemble. Because this was conceived as a pedagogical piece, the wedge that starts on a unison F encourages players to learn how to blend sound and then build intervallic integrity through the descending notes of a B-flat Lydian scale. Finally, the harmonic tension of the opening builds an energy that is later released in the allegro section.

Burst of Flight

Transposed Score

For Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

Josh Roach
(2011)

Adagietto ♩=66

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-5. The score is for a transposed ensemble and includes parts for Trumpet 1 in B \flat , Trumpet 2 in B \flat , Trumpet 3 in B \flat , Horn in F, Tenor Trombone, and Bass Trombone. The key signature has one flat (B \flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is Adagietto with a metronome marking of ♩=66. The dynamic marking is *mf* (mezzo-forte). The music features a melodic line in the trumpets and horns, with the Tenor and Bass Trombones playing a supporting role in the fifth measure.

Musical score for the second system, measures 6-10. The score includes parts for Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature has one flat (B \flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamic markings are *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The music continues the melodic development from the first system, with dynamic changes and phrasing slurs. A rehearsal mark '6' is placed above the first measure of this system. The score concludes with dynamic markings *mf* > and *mf* < *f*.

Burst of Flight - Transposed Score

12 *rit.* **A** *mosso*

Tpt. 1 *mp* *f* *ff*

Tpt. 2 *mp* *f* *ff*

Tpt. 3 *mp* *f* *ff*

Hn. *mp* *f* *ff*

Tbn. *mp* *f* *ff*

B. Tbn. *mp* *f* *ff*

17 **B** *Allegro* ♩=172

Tpt. 1 *pp*

Tpt. 2 *pp*

Tpt. 3 *pp*

Hn. *pp*

Tbn. *pp*

B. Tbn. *pp* *mf*

24 C

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Hn.
Tbn.
B. Tbn.

p *f* *mp* *f* *p*

30

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Hn.
Tbn.
B. Tbn.

f *f* *f* *f* *f* *mp*

Burst of Flight - Transposed Score

35

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn.
mp

Tbn.

B. Tbn.

41

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn.
mp

Tbn.

B. Tbn.

45 **D**

Musical score for measures 45-48, section D. The score includes staves for Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The B. Tbn. part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents, marked *ff*.

49 **E**

Musical score for measures 49-52, section E. The score includes staves for Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The Hn. part has a melodic line with a slur, marked *p*. The Tbn. part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents, marked *p*.

Burst of Flight - Transposed Score

53

Musical score for measures 53-56. The score is for a brass section with six parts: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. Measures 53 and 54 feature a melodic line in Tpt. 1 and Tpt. 2, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic and moving to a forte (*f*) dynamic by measure 55. Tpt. 3 plays a rhythmic eighth-note pattern throughout. Hn. plays a melodic line in measures 53-54, then rests in 55-56. Tbn. and B. Tbn. are silent throughout.

57 **F**

Musical score for measures 57-60. The score is for a brass section with six parts: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. A box containing the letter 'F' is placed above measure 57. Measures 57-58 feature a melodic line in Tpt. 1 and Tpt. 2, starting with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Tpt. 3 plays a rhythmic eighth-note pattern starting in measure 59. Hn. plays a melodic line in measures 59-60, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Tbn. and B. Tbn. play a melodic line in measures 59-60, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

61

Musical score for measures 61-66. The score is for a brass ensemble consisting of Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a strong dynamic of *f* (forte). Tpt. 1 and Tpt. 2 play a melodic line with a slur over measures 61-63. Tpt. 3 and Hn. play a similar melodic line starting in measure 64. Tbn. and B. Tbn. play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with accents. A large watermark 'SAMPLE FOR PAPER ONLY' is visible across the score.

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tpt. 3 *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

B. Tbn. *f*

67 **G**

Musical score for measures 67-70. The score is for a brass ensemble consisting of Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a dynamic of *p* (piano). A box containing the letter 'G' is placed above measure 67. Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, and Hn. play a melodic line with slurs and rests. Tpt. 3 plays a melodic line with a slur. Tbn. and B. Tbn. play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with accents. A large watermark 'SAMPLE FOR PAPER ONLY' is visible across the score.

Tpt. 1 *p*

Tpt. 2 *p*

Tpt. 3 *mf*

Hn. *p*

Tbn. *p*

B. Tbn. *p*

71

Musical score for measures 71-74. The score is for six instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. Tpt. 1 has a dynamic marking of *mf*. Tpt. 2 has a dynamic marking of *p*. The Tbn. and B. Tbn. parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents.

75

Musical score for measures 75-78. The score is for six instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature changes to two sharps (D major). The time signature is 4/4. The Tbn. and B. Tbn. parts continue with the eighth-note rhythmic pattern.

79 **H**

Tpt. 1 *ff*

Tpt. 2 *ff*

Tpt. 3 *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

B. Tbn. *ff*

84

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tpt. 3 *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

B. Tbn. *f*

88 **I**

Musical score for measures 88-91. The score is for a brass section with parts for Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., and B. Tbn. The key signature has two flats. Measures 88-91 feature a series of chords with various dynamics including *ff* and accents.

92

Musical score for measures 92-95. The score continues with the brass section parts. Measures 92-95 show more complex rhythmic patterns and dynamics.