

Piano

James M. Stephenson

Burden of Destiny

for Solo Trumpet and Piano



Music for Brass
www.stephensonmusic.com

Program Notes: Burden of Destiny
(2009)

by James M. Stephenson

In the winter of 2007, the Chicago Symphony was on a Florida tour, which included Naples, where I was living at the time. After their performance, I had the opportunity to meet Chris Martin (Principal Trumpet), where he implied that it would be nice someday to get a new piece from me. Two years later, which included my family's move from Naples to Chicago, and after many text-messages and emails, the opportunity finally presented itself in the form of a recital to be held at the International Trumpet Guild's (ITG) Conference, to be held in Harrisburg, PA.

When considering what to write for Chris, I was looking to do something that would be a relatively serious piece, and one that would represent both of our ties to Chicago (I am originally from the area). It was during this search that I was reminded of Carl Sandburg's poem, 'Chicago', and I decided to give it a read to see what might serve as inspiration.

Those of us from the city are well aware of the famous lines "Hog butcher for the World" or "City of Big Shoulders" - but it was a line describing the city, hidden later in the poem, that caught my eye: "Under the terrible burden of destiny laughing as a young man laughs." The idea of being burdened by something unknown, such as destiny, struck a chord with me, and inspired me to begin work on the piece.

The piece immediately takes on a serious nature, starting almost hauntingly slowly and simply, not yet daring to take on the impending difficulty which is sure to come at any time. The challenges do in fact arrive, and it is during these moments that I strove to portray some of Chicago's known qualities, the working man's city, "strong and cunning", a "tall bold slugger set vivid against the little soft cities." I wanted to write a strong piece, full of action and weight, all the while showing off what I believe to be Chris Martin's best qualities as a musician: which in a word would basically be: Everything.

I do believe the piece could also be done as a multi-media venture, using a narrator to read the poem, either before, or interspersed throughout the performance of the 9 minute work.

Jim Stephenson
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for Chris Martin and Rebecca Wilt

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Distant, Reminiscing (♩ = c. 76)

Trumpet in C

Piano

pp

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The Trumpet in C part is a whole rest. The Piano part features a melody in the right hand and chords in the left hand. Dynamics include *pp*.

Tpt.

5

Pno.

5

Musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The Trumpet part has a whole rest. The Piano part continues the melody and accompaniment. Dynamics include *pp*.

Tpt.

9

(A)

Pno.

9

p

6

pp

Musical score for the third system, measures 9-12. The Trumpet part has a whole rest. The Piano part features a melody in the right hand and a sixteenth-note accompaniment in the left hand. Dynamics include *p* and *pp*.

10

Tpt.

Pno.

6

6

Detailed description: This system covers measures 10 and 11. The trumpet part (Tpt.) has a whole note chord in measure 10 and a half note chord in measure 11. The piano part (Pno.) features a complex texture with sixteenth-note patterns in both hands. A sixteenth-note triplet is marked with a '6' in the bass clef in measure 10. Another sixteenth-note triplet is marked with a '6' in the treble clef in measure 11. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

11

Tpt.

Pno.

6

p

Detailed description: This system covers measures 11 and 12. The trumpet part (Tpt.) has a half note chord in measure 11 and a half note chord in measure 12. The piano part (Pno.) continues with sixteenth-note patterns. A sixteenth-note triplet is marked with a '6' in the treble clef in measure 11. A dynamic marking of *p* (piano) is present in measure 12. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

12

Tpt.

Pno.

6

pp

pp

Detailed description: This system covers measures 12 and 13. The trumpet part (Tpt.) has a half note chord in measure 12 and a half note chord in measure 13. The piano part (Pno.) continues with sixteenth-note patterns. A sixteenth-note triplet is marked with a '6' in the treble clef in measure 12. Dynamic markings of *pp* (pianissimo) are present in both measures. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

Tpt. 13 *mp* *mf*

Pno. 13 *mf* *f*

Tpt. 15 *f* *p* *mp*

Pno. 15 *ff* *p*

Tpt. 17 (B) *p* *pp* *rit.*

Pno. 17 *pp*

© Allegretto, sympatico (♩ = c. 76)

21

Tpt.

Pno.

3 *p*

Red - - - - - II * 3 8vb - -

25

Tpt.

Pno.

(8vb)

leggero

25 *p* *loco* II *pp*

Red - - - - - II * 3 8vb - -

29

Tpt.

Pno.

Tpt. 33

Pno. 33

This system contains the first three measures of music. The Tpt. part (top staff) begins at measure 33 with a melodic line featuring a trill in measure 34 and a triplet in measure 35. The Pno. part (bottom two staves) features a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

Tpt. 37

Pno. 37

This system contains measures 37 through 39. The Tpt. part continues its melodic line with a trill in measure 37. The Pno. part maintains the accompaniment pattern, with some chordal changes in the right hand.

Tpt. 40

Pno. 40

This system contains measures 40 through 42. The Tpt. part features a triplet in measure 40 and a melodic line with various ornaments. The Pno. part continues with the accompaniment, showing some chordal complexity in the right hand.

43 **E**

Tpt.

Pno.

45

Tpt.

Pno.

47

Tpt.

Pno.

50 *rit.*

Tpt.

Pno.

55 **F** A Tempo ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 76$)

Tpt.

Pno.

58

Tpt.

Pno.

rit.

Ⓒ Slowly, as the beginning ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 56$)

67

Tpt.

Pno.

66

Tpt.

Pno.

71

Tpt.

Pno.

Ⓜ Tempo Primo (♩ = c. 76)

Tpt. 75 *f* 3 3

Pno. 75 *ff* 6

Tpt. 76 *f* 3 3

Pno. 76 6

Tpt. 77 *f* 3 3

Pno. 77 6

78

Tpt.

f 3

Pno.

6 *fff*

79

Tpt.

ff

Pno.

L.H. 3 6 R.H. 3 *mf*

82

Tpt.

rit.

Pno.

mp *p* *pp*

① Scherzando, pressing (♩ = c. 132)

87

Tpt.

Pno.

pp

91

Tpt.

Pno.

95

Tpt.

Pno.

99

Tpt.

Pno.

f

104

Tpt.

Pno.

8va

8va

109

Tpt.

Pno.

loco

113

Tpt.

Pno.

Musical score for measures 113-117. The trumpet part is mostly silent. The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with eighth and sixteenth notes in both staves.

118

Tpt.

Pno.

(K)

Musical score for measures 118-121. The trumpet part is silent. The piano part has a more active bass line and includes a key signature change to C major (marked with a circled K) in measure 119.

122

Tpt.

Pno.

p

Musical score for measures 122-126. The trumpet part has a melodic line starting in measure 122. The piano part has a steady bass line and includes a dynamic marking of piano (*p*) in measure 122.

127

Tpt.

Pno.

131

Tpt.

Pno.

Tpt. 139 *f* *fp* *f*

Pno. 139 *p* *p* *f*

Tpt. 143 *p* *tr*

Pno. 143 *f* *p*

Tpt. 148 *mf* (M)

Pno. 148 *tr*

153

Tpt. *fp* *mf* *mp*

Pno.

157

Tpt. *mf*

Pno.

162

Tpt. *f* *p* (N)

Pno. *f*

167

Tpt.

mf

p

Pno.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 167 to 171. The Tpt. part (top staff) features a melodic line with various articulations and dynamics, including *mf* and *p*. The Pno. part (bottom two staves) provides a harmonic accompaniment with a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

172

Tpt.

f

p

mf

5

Pno.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 172 to 176. The Tpt. part (top staff) has a more active melodic line with dynamics ranging from *f* to *p* and *mf*. The Pno. part (bottom two staves) continues the accompaniment, with a notable change in the right hand in measure 176, marked with a '5' (fingerings).

177

Tpt.

Pno.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 177 to 181. The Tpt. part (top staff) features a long, sustained melodic phrase. The Pno. part (bottom two staves) continues the accompaniment with a consistent eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

181 *rit.*

Tpt.

Pno.

185 **Ⓞ** **Meno mosso** (♩ = c. 112)

Tpt.

Pno.

189

Tpt.

Pno.

192

Tpt.

Pno.

195

Tpt.

Pno.

198

Tpt.

Pno.

201

Tpt.

Pno.

f

f

3

204

Tpt.

Pno.

f

f

3

207

Tpt.

Pno.

p

p

3

210

Tpt.

f p fp

Pno.

f p 3 *ff* 3 3

214

Tpt.

ff

Pno.

3 3 3 3 3 3

217

Tpt.

Pno.

3 3 3

220

Tpt.

mp espr.

220

Pno.

p

legato

224

Tpt.

224

Pno.

228

Tpt.

228

Pno.

Tpt. 232

Pno. 232

mf f

Detailed description: This system covers measures 232 to 235. The Tpt. staff (top) features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf* at measure 233 and *f* at measure 234. It includes triplets and slurs. The Pno. staff (bottom) consists of two staves. The upper staff has a series of chords with slurs, and the lower staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

Tpt. 236

Pno. 236

Detailed description: This system covers measures 236 to 239. The Tpt. staff (top) has a long note with a slur and a fermata. The Pno. staff (bottom) has two staves. The upper staff features chords with slurs, and the lower staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

Tpt. 240

Pno. 240

Detailed description: This system covers measures 240 to 243. The Tpt. staff (top) is mostly silent with a few notes. The Pno. staff (bottom) has two staves. The upper staff has chords with slurs and a fermata, and the lower staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with triplets.

244

Tpt.

Pno.

249

Tpt.

Pno.

rit.

p

254

Tpt.

Pno.

Ⓢ Slowly, Come Prima, ma meno (♩ = c. 66)

mp

p

257

Tpt. *mf* \rightrightarrows *p*

Pno. *mf*

260

Tpt. *f*

Pno. *f* \rightrightarrows *ff*

262

Tpt. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

264

Tpt.

Pno.

Ⓢ *Allegretto, poco a poco accel.* (♩ = c. 60)

267

Tpt.

Pno.

pp

8^{vb}-

270

Tpt.

Pno.

from a distance

pp

3

(8^{vb})-

273

Tpt.

Pno.

p

(8vb)

276

Tpt.

Pno.

p

loco

(8vb)

279

Tpt.

Pno.

p

still p

282

Tpt.

Pno.

285

Ⓟ

Tpt.

mp

still pressing forward

285

mp

Pno.

288

Tpt.

288

Pno.

291

Tpt.

Pno.

294

Tpt.

Pno.

297

Tpt.

Pno.

300

Tpt.

ff

Pno.

ff

304

Ⓜ Scherzando (♩. = c. 116)

Tpt.

p

Pno.

p

309

Tpt.

p

Pno.

314 (X)

Tpt. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

319

Tpt.

Pno.

324 (Y)

Tpt. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

330

Tpt.

Pno.

330

331

332

333

334

335

Tpt.

Pno.

335

336

337

338

339

f

fp

fz

fz

8vb