

JAMES M. STEPHENSON

COUSINS



FOR SAXOPHONE, TRUMPET
AND ORCHESTRA
PIANO REDUCTION

Stephenson
Music

WWW.STEPHENSONMUSIC.COM

**COUSINS - for Solo saxophone (alto/tenor),
Trumpet (+piccolo tpt.)
and Orchestra [Piano reduction done by the composer]**

by James M. Stephenson

PROGRAM NOTES, from the composer:

Performance time: @16 minutes

In late 2006, conductor Jung-Ho Pak contacted me with the possibility of an exciting opportunity: to compose a new work for saxophonist Branford Marsalis, trumpeter Rodney Mack and symphony orchestra, to be featured the following summer at Interlochen Arts Camp with the famed World Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Many facets about this potential collaboration made it a proposition hard to decline. I didn't know Branford at the time, but my history with both Interlochen and Rodney went way back. I attended Interlochen as a young trumpeter, starting at the age of 10, for seven summers spanning 1979-1986. I also attended the Interlochen Arts Academy from 1983-86. The only summer I skipped Interlochen - 1985 - I instead went to Tanglewood, where I met Rodney Mack, who became an instant and lifelong friend.

Rodney and Branford, as it turns out, are distant cousins; and to me, the saxophone and trumpet are related as well (both in the "wind family", though one is a woodwind and the other brass). Hence the title, which seemed a nice reference to all of the connections related to this piece.

The work is essentially a one-movement concerto, created in fast-slow-fast form. The references to jazz (Branford's specialty) are obvious, with idiomatic harmonies and syncopated rhythms. The slow mid-section is a Stravinsky-esque blues, nodding both toward the jazz and classical worlds simultaneously. The saxophone soloist has the option for a completely improvised cadenza, if desired.

The premiere took place on the Kresge stage at Interlochen Arts Camp, on July 15, 2007. My thanks to Jung-Ho Pak, Branford, Rodney and the World Youth Symphony Orchestra for a most memorable occasion.

Jim Stephenson

Program notes created: May 19, 2011

Cousins

James M. Stephenson

Energico ♩ = 132

The score is for the piece "Cousins" by James M. Stephenson, in 4/4 time with a tempo of 132 beats per minute. It is marked "Energico". The instrumentation includes Saxophone, Trumpet, Piano, and Piano (Pno.).

The score is divided into five systems:

- System 1:** Measures 1-4. The Piano part begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic, followed by a crescendo leading to a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Saxophone and Trumpet parts are silent.
- System 2:** Measures 5-8. The Pno. part continues with complex textures. The Saxophone and Trumpet parts remain silent.
- System 3:** Measures 9-12. A section labeled "A" begins in measure 9. The Pno. part features a melodic line in the right hand and a sustained bass line in the left hand. The dynamic is *mf*.
- System 4:** Measures 13-16. The Pno. part continues with melodic and harmonic development.
- System 5:** Measures 17-20. The Pno. part concludes with sustained chords and a melodic line.

21 (Alto Sax) **B**

Sax. *mf*

Pno. *sub.mf* *mf* *mf*

25

Sax. *f* *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf* *mf* *p*

28

Sax. *mf* *f*

Pno. *mp*

31 **C**

Sax. *p* *mf*

Tpt. *mf < f* *mp*

Pno. *mf* *f* *p* *mf*

35

Sax. *f* *p* *mf*

Tpt. *f* *mp* *f* *dolce* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 35 to 38. The Saxophone part begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a piano (*p*) section, and ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) note. The Trumpet part starts with *f*, has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) section with a triplet, returns to *f*, then a *dolce* section, and ends with *mf* and a triplet. The Piano accompaniment features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, a forte (*f*) section with triplets, and another mezzo-forte (*mf*) section.

39

Sax. *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Tpt. *f* *f*

Pno. *mp* *f* *p*

D

Detailed description: This system covers measures 39 to 41. The Saxophone part has dynamics of *f*, *mf*, *f*, *mf*, and *f*. The Trumpet part has dynamics of *f* and *f*. The Piano accompaniment starts with mezzo-piano (*mp*) and triplets, moves to forte (*f*) with triplets, and then to piano (*p*) for a section marked 'D'. A dynamic hairpin is also present in the piano part.

42

Sax.

Pno. *p poco cresc.* *mp* *p*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 42 to 44. The Saxophone part continues with a melodic line. The Piano accompaniment starts with piano (*p*) and a *poco cresc.* (piano crescendo) section, then moves to mezzo-piano (*mp*) and ends with piano (*p*). A dynamic hairpin is shown in the piano part.

45

Sax.

Pno.

p

mp

48

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

f

mf

ff

f

espressivo

piu f

f

mp

f

E

52

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

f

ff

sub. f

mf

56

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

mp

p

60

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

pp

mp

mf

p poco < mp

F

64

Tpt.

Pno.

p leggiero

port.

mf

mf

mp

68

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

mf dolce cantabile

f

cresc.

cresc.

mp

mf

73

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

cresc.

f

f

f

G

77

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

f

f

f

p

mf

p

mf

81

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

p *mf* *f*

ff

6

3

85

Tpt.

Pno.

p *leggiero*

p

H

3

6

89

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

mf *mp* *mp* *p*

mp *leggiero*

Cousins

I

93

Sax. *mf* *f* *mp* *f*

Tpt. *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf* *mp* *mf* *p*

97

Sax. *dolce* *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf* *p* *mp*

101

Sax. *piu f*

Pno. *f* *mp*

104

Sax. *mf* *mp*

Pno. *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

109 J

Sax. *p* *f* *f*

Tpt. *p* *f* *f*

Pno. *f*

113

Sax. *cantabile* 3

Tpt. *cantabile* 3 *mf* *f*

Pno.

117

Sax. *f* *leggiero* 3

Tpt. *mf* *f* to Picc. Tpt.

Pno. 3 3 3 3

121

Sax.

Pno.

126

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

K (to Tenor Sax)

to Picc. Tpt.

mp *f*

130

Tpt.

Pno.

mp *f*

133

Pno.

137

Tpt.

Pno.

f *mf* *f*

p *fz*

140

Tpt.

Pno.

L

ff *f*

ff

145

Tpt.

Pno.

mf *mp*

149

Tpt.

Pno.

p *mp* *p*

rit. **M** Adagio, Sentimental ♩ = 66

153 *p* *p* *mf* *p* return to Trpt. in C

Tpt.

Pno.

ppp *p* *f* *p*

158 *f* *p*

Pno.

f *p*

163 **N** C Trpt. *slowing* *a tempo*

Tpt.

Pno.

p espressivo *mf* *p* *pp*

169 *on Tenor*

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

sub. p *p* *pp*

rit.

O *a tempo*

173

Sax. *p* *mf* *f*

Tpt. *p* *mf* *f*

Pno. *f*

177

Sax. *mf*

Tpt. *mf*

Pno. *f*

181

P *L'istesso Tempo* (♩ = 66)

Sax. *mp*

Tpt. *mp*

Pno. *p*

185

Sax. *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf*

189

Sax. *f*

Pno. *p* *mp*

193

Sax. *p* *mp* **Q**

Pno. *p*

197

Sax. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp*

200 **R**

Sax. *mp* *mf* *f* *ma dolce*

Tpt. *mf* *f* *ma dolce*

Pno. *mp* *f* *mf*

204

Sax. *mp* *f*

Tpt. *mp*

Pno. *mf*

207

Sax. *mf*

Tpt. *f* *mf*

Pno. *f*

S

211

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

mf

mp non cresc.

p

215

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

to Alto Sax.

219

Pno.

pp

CADENZA

223 Sax. (Alto Sax) *p* Very free, as a cadenza *f*

Pno. *ppp* speed of trem. not as important as sustained sound

226 Sax. *p*

Pno.

229 Sax. *mf* *f*

Pno.

233 Sax. Tpt. Pno.

FREE CADENZA (optional) 1. [as long as desired] (ending on this note)

U CADENZA

237 *Freely*

Tpt. *p* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp*

241 *mf* *f*

Tpt. *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf* *f*

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

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

Pno. *p* *f* *p*

W Tempo Primo

249 *mp* *f* *p*

Tpt. *mp* *f* *p*

Pno. *mp* *f* *p*

253 *f* *f* *ff* **Start Slowly**

Tpt. Pno.

256 (Alto Sax) **X** *accel.* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Sax. Tpt. Pno.

259 *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *p*

Sax. Pno.

263

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

mp

f *mf* *f*

267

Tpt.

Pno.

mf *f*

271

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

f *piu f* *piu f*

**ossia until letter Z - this may be left out and given to Orch. Trpt. 1*

275

Sax. *sub. mp*

Tpt. *sub. mp*

Pno. *p sub.*

Z

279

Sax. *f* (Always Play)

Tpt. *f*

Pno. *f p*

282

Sax. *p*

Tpt. *p*

Pno. *f p*

AA

285

Sax. *f*

Tpt. *f*

Pno. *f* *p* *mf*

289

Tpt.

Pno. *f*

293

Sax. *ff cantabile*

Tpt. *ff cantabile*

Pno. *ff*

BB

297

Sax.

Tpt.

Pno.

mf

f

ff

303

Tpt.

Pno.

mf

mf

mp

CC

309

Tpt.

Pno.

p

mp

mf

p

mp

p

mf

313

Tpt.

Pno.

mf

f

p

mp

p

mf

317 **DD**

Sax. *mf*

Pno. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

321

Sax. *f*

Pno. *mp* *mf* *mp* *f*

325

Sax. *f*

Tpt. *mf* *f*

Pno. *mp* *mf* *mp* *f*

EE

329

Sax. *ff*

Tpt. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

FF

333

Sax. *ff*

Tpt. *ff*

Pno. *f*

337

Sax. *ff*

Tpt. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

340

Sax. *mf* (Optional) *f*

Tpt. *mf* *f*

Pno. *mp* *mf*

343

Sax. *f* *fff*

Tpt. *f* *ff* *fff*

Pno. *ff*