

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.

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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, unless otherwise indicated.

Duration: 12½ Minutes

Euphonium Concerto

Karen Amrhein (ASCAP)

with Strings

I. Daydream on a Thanksgiving Chorale

Chorale ♩ = 80

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-5. The Euphonium part is silent. The string parts (Violins 1 & 2, Violas, Cellos, and Double Basses) play a chorale in 4/4 time. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 5.



6

A

Musical score for the second system, measures 6-10. The Euphonium part is silent. The string parts continue. Dynamics include *f*, *mf*, and *mp*. The Cello part includes a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 10.

11

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

mp

mf

mp

mf

mp

mf

mp

pizz.

arco



16

(B) Daydream: Energetically ♩ = 252 ♪ = 126

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

al niente

mf

mf

pizz.

p

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* *arco* *mp*



F

48

Eu. *mf mp*

Vn. 1 *mp* *fp*

Vn. 2 *fp*

Vla. *mp* *fp*

Vc. *mp* *fp* *mp*

D.B. *mp*

56

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f

mf

f

f

f

f



63

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mp

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

G

H *Lyrical* ♩ = 144

69

Eu. *mp* *p* *p espress.*

Vn. 1 *mp* *p*

Vn. 2 *p*

Vla. *mp* *molto* *p*

Vc. *mp* *molto* *p*

D.B. *mp* *molto* *p* *pizz.* *arco*



76

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

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

Vn. 2 *mf* *p*

Vla. *mp* *mf* *p*

Vc. *mp* *mf* *p*

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

82

I Energetically ♩ = 240 ♪ = 120

Eu. *p*

Vn. 1 *p* mute con sord. *pp* unmute

Vn. 2 *p* mute con sord. *pp* unmute

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vc. *p*

D.B. *p*



89

J

Eu. *f*

Vn. 1 senza sord. *mf* *f*

Vn. 2 senza sord. *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

D.B. *mf* *f*

Eu. *f*

Vn. 1 *f*

Vn. 2 *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *tutti* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

D.B. *mf* *f*

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*

pizz.

A

5

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

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

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

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

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

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



rall. ----- $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

9

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

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*

28 **D** ♩ = 120

Musical score for measures 28-32. The score is in 5/8 time and key of D major. The instruments are Eu. (Euphonium), Vn. 1 (Violin 1), Vn. 2 (Violin 2), Vla. (Viola), Vc. (Violoncello), and D.B. (Double Bass). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 120. The dynamic is *mf* (mezzo-forte). The Eu. part features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The Vn. 1 part has a similar melodic line. The Vn. 2 part has a more rhythmic accompaniment. The Vla. part has a melodic line with slurs. The Vc. part has a melodic line with slurs and a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking. The D.B. part is mostly silent.



33

Musical score for measures 33-37. The score is in 2/4 time and key of D major. The instruments are Eu. (Euphonium), Vn. 1 (Violin 1), Vn. 2 (Violin 2), Vla. (Viola), Vc. (Violoncello), and D.B. (Double Bass). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 120. The dynamic is *mp* (mezzo-piano). The Eu. part features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The Vn. 1 part has a melodic line with slurs and a *mp* marking. The Vn. 2 part has a melodic line with slurs and a *p* (piano) marking. The Vla. part has a melodic line with slurs and a *mp* marking. The Vc. part has a melodic line with slurs and a *mp* marking. The D.B. part is mostly silent. There is a *arco* marking above the Vc. part.

38 **E** *rall.* -----

Eu. *f*

Vn. 1 *v*

Vn. 2 *mf* *v*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *pizz.*

D.B.



43 **F** ♩ = 92

Eu. *mf*

Vn. 1 *f* *mf*

Vn. 2 *f* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mf*

Vc. *arco* *solo* *tutti* *f* *mf*

D.B. *f* *mf*

III. Cascades

Espressivo ♩ = 240

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* arco *f* *ff* *p*

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



6 (A) Eu. *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*

rit. ----- (B) Flowing ♩ = 80

12

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* *p* pizz.

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

(D)

28

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

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

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

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

Vc. *mp* *mf* *mp*

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

div. tutti *mf* tutti

f solo

arco

arco

34

Eu. *f* 3 *mf* *mp*

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

Vn. 2 [\square 3] [\square 3] *mf* *mp*

Vla. *mf* *mp* *mf* 3

Vc. *mf* *mp*

D.B.



39 E

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2 *mf* 3 *mp*

Vla. *mp* *mf* 3 *mp* 3

Vc. *mf* 3 *mp* 3

D.B.

F

44

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.



49

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

54 **G** *Waltz-like* ♩. = 54

Eu. *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.

66 I Lightly ♩. = 108

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

tutti

mf *mp*

mf *mp*

mf *mp*

mf *mp*

71

Eu.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

p *mf*

p *mf* *mp*

p *mf* *mp*

p *mf* *mp*

77 **J**

Eu. *mf*

Vn. 1 *mp*

Vn. 2

Vla. pizz.

Vc. pizz.

D.B. pizz.

83 **K**

Eu. *mf*

Vn. 1 *mf*

Vn. 2 *mp*

Vla. arco

Vc. arco

D.B. arco

Flowing ♩ = 100

87

Eu. *f*

Vn. 1 *pp* < *mf* *mp* *p* < *mf*

Vn. 2 *mf*

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

Vc. *pp* < *mf* *mp* *p* < *mf*

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

92

rit.

(L) ♩ = 80

Eu. *f* *mf* *mp* *al niente*

Vn. 1 *p* < *mf* *pp* *mf*

Vn. 2 *p* < *mf* *pp* *mf*

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

Vc. *p* < *mf* *pp* *mf* *mf*

D.B. *p* < *mf* *pp* *mf*