5-1-2016

Three Attempts at Time Travel

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THREE ATTEMPTS AT TIME TRAVEL

by

William J. Radtke

A.F.A., South Suburban College, 2010
B.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2012

A Thesis
Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Master of Music Theory and Composition

School of Music
in the Graduate School
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
May 2016
THESIS APPROVAL

THREE ATTEMPTS AT TIME TRAVEL

By
William J. Radtke

A Thesis Submitted in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of
Master in Theory and Composition
in the field of Music

Approved by:
Dr. Christopher Walczak, Chair
Dr. Jessica Butler
Dr. Richard Kelley

Graduate School
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
April 11, 2016
Three Attempts at Time Travel is a piece for wind ensemble that is approximately ten minutes in length. It consists of a brief introduction and three continuous movements based on the same starting material. It is semi-programmatic, but it is not an attempt to depict a specific narrative. Rather, it portrays a scenario involving time travel. The concept of the piece begins with a person who uses a time machine to travel back to a certain point in time to change the result of an event in their own life. During the piece, the person goes back to the same starting point three times with each “restart” resulting in a different outcome. On the final restart, a positive resolution is reached, but it is ultimately a conflicted ending because it is not the ending that the time traveler was aiming for. At the end of the introduction and each of the first two movements, a “time machine” motive consisting of: a Mahler hammer, a concert bass drum, a drum set, a thunder sheet, a suspended cymbal and a triangle occurs to signal the return to the original point in time.
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INSTRUMENTATION

4 Flutes (4th doubling Piccolo)
2 Oboes
3 Clarinets in Bb (1st doubling Soprano Clarinet in Eb)
1 Bass Clarinet in Bb
1 Contrabass Clarinet in Bb
2 Bassoons
2 Alto Saxophones in Eb (1st doubling Soprano Saxophone in Bb)
1 Tenor Saxophone in Bb
1 Baritone Saxophone in Eb
4 Horns in F
4 Trumpets in Bb
2 Tenor Trombones
1 Bass Trombone
2 Euphoniums
1 Tuba
6 Percussion:
  Snare Drum
  Bass Drum
  Tom-toms
  Suspended Cymbal
  Drum Set
  Marimba
  Vibraphone
  Xylophone
  Tubular Bells
  Triangle
  Timpani
  Thunder Sheet
  Temple Blocks
  Mahler Hammer
1 Piano
1 Electric Guitar
1 Double Bass (doubling Electric Bass)
Three Attempts at Time Travel for Wind Ensemble

By William J. Radtke
(accel. poco a poco)
Percussion Key

Bass Drum

Drum Set

Temple Blocks

Bass Drum

Rim of Bass Drum

High Hat (Foot)
Kick Drum
Floor Tom
Snare Drum
Snare Drum Rim
High Tom (Right)
High Tom (Left)
Ride Cymbal
High Hat
Crash Cymbal

Temple Block 1 (Lowest)
Temple Block 2
Temple Block 3
Temple Block 4
Temple Block 5 (Highest)
BIBLIOGRAPHY


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South Suburban College
Associate of Fine Arts, Music, May 2010

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Thesis Title:
Three Attempts at Time Travel

Major Professor: Dr. Christopher Walczak