

Freefall

op. 240

Robert Sheldon

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Program notes...

Freefall, op 240

Southwest Community Concert Band, Orland Park, Illinois

Ray Forlenza, Conductor

Grade 4.5 - 6:10

Commissioned for the 40th Anniversary of the Southwest Community Concert Band, this technical juggernaut imagines the thrill of skydiving, replete with moments of spinning, whirling, gliding, floating, trepidation, anticipation, peace and joy.

The subject of skydiving never came up during discussions about the piece prior to my starting this project, but somehow thoughts of it provided inspiration, which is odd because I have never been, nor do I ever intend to jump out of an airplane, with or without a parachute. Consequently, writing this piece is as close as I hope to get to that experience. While the actual act terrifies me, the time spent writing about it has been incredibly entertaining, and I hope musicians, conductors and audiences will enjoy performing and hearing the piece as much as I enjoyed composing it.

rs

About the composer...

One of the most performed composers of concert band music, Robert Sheldon's compositions are performed around the world and appears on many international concert and contest lists. With over three million copies of his compositions and books sold, Dr. Sheldon regularly accepts commissions for new works, and produces numerous publications for concert band and orchestra each year. For more information please visit www.robertsheldonmusic.com.

Fls./Picc. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Ob. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Bsn. *mp* *ff*

Cl. 1 *mp* *ff* *mp*

Cl. 2/3 *mp* *ff* *mp*

B. Cl. *mp* *ff*

A. Saxes *mp* *ff* *mp*

T. Sax. *mp* *ff* *mp*

B. Sax. *mp* *ff*

Tpt. 1 *f* *mf* *f*

Tpts. 2/3 *mp* *ff* *f* *mp*

Hns. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Trb. 1 *f* *mf* *f*

Trbs. 2/3 *f* *mp*

Euph. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Tba. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Mlts. *f* *mf* *mp*

Perc. 1 *p* *ff*

Perc. 2 *p* *ff*

Timp. *f* *mp* *f*

5 6 7 8 9

10

Fls./Pic. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *p* *ff*

Cl. 1 *ff*

Cl. 2/3 *ff* *a2*

B. Cl. *p* *ff*

A. Saxes *ff* *a2*

T. Sax. *ff*

B. Sax. *ff*

Tpt. 1 *ff* *f*

Tpts. 2/3 *ff* *f*

Hns. *ff* *p* *ff* *a2*

Trb. 1 *ff* *p* *ff*

Trbs. 2/3 *ff* *p* *ff* *a2*

Euph. *ff* *p* *ff*

Tba. *p* *ff*

Mlts. *ff* *f*

Perc. 1 *ff* *mf* *ff* *f* (w/stick)

Perc. 2 *ff* *Ch.* *p* *ff*

Timp. *ff* *mf* *10* *ff sfz*

11 12 13 14

Fls./Picc.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpts. 2/3

Hns.

Trb. 1

Trbs. 2/3

Euph.

Tba.

Mlts.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

(w/medium mallets)

Bells

+ Chimes

f 15 *mp* 16 *ff* 17 18 19

26

Fls./Picc. *-Picc.*
mf

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *(b)*

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2/3 *a2*
mf

B. Cl. *(b)*

A. Saxes

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1 *(st. mute)*
mp *(open)*
mf

Tpts. 2/3 *(st. mute)*
mp *(open)*
mf

Hns.

Trb. 1 *mp*

Trbs. 2/3 *mp*

Euph.

Tba. *(b)*

Mts. *mf*

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 2 *Tamb.*
mp

Timp.

25 *mp* 26 27 28 29 30

Fls./Pic. *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *mf*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2/3 *a2* *f*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes *a2* *mf* *a2* *f*

T. Sax. *mf* *f*

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

Tpt. 1 *a2* *f* *mf*

Tpts. 2/3 *a2* *f* *mf*

Hns. *a2* *mf* *f*

Trb. 1 *mf*

Trbs. 2/3 *a2* *mf*

Euph. *mf* *f* *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Mlts.

Perc. 1 *mf* (w/stick)

Perc. 2 *mf*

Timp.

31 32 *mf* 33 *f* 34 35 36

This page of a musical score contains the following elements:

- Instrumentation:** Fls./Picc., Ob., Bsn., Cl. 1, Cl. 2/3, B. Cl., A. Saxes, T. Sax., B. Sax., Tpt. 1, Tpts. 2/3, Hns., Trb. 1, Trbs. 2/3, Euph., Tba., Mts., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, and Timp.
- Dynamic Markings:** *ff* (fortissimo), *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte).
- Performance Instructions:** *+Picc.* (Piccolo), *Xylo. (w/hard mallets)*.
- Measure Numbers:** 37, 38, 39, 40, 41.
- Other Notations:** *a2* (second octave), *b* (flat), *tr* (trill), *acc* (accents), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *ff* (fortissimo).

42

-Picc.

+Picc.

Fls./Picc. *mp* *f*

Ob. *mp* *f*

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1 *ff* *mp* *mf*

Cl. 2/3 *ff* *mp* *mf*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes *ff* *mp* *f* *a2*

T. Sax. *mp* *f*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *mp* *mf* *a2*

Tpts. 2/3 *mp* *mf* *a2*

Hns. *mp* *f* *a2*

Trb. 1 *mf* *a2*

Trbs. 2/3 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *mp*

Mlts. *mp*

Perc. 1 *f* *mp* (w/mallets)

Perc. 2 *mp* *p*

Timp. *mp*

This page of a musical score contains the following parts and markings:

- Fls./Picc.**: Flute and Piccolo part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Ob.**: Oboe part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Bsn.**: Bassoon part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Cl. 1**: Clarinet 1 part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Cl. 2/3**: Clarinet 2 and 3 parts with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- B. Cl.**: Bass Clarinet part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- A. Saxes**: Alto Saxophones part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- T. Sax.**: Tenor Saxophone part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- B. Sax.**: Baritone Saxophone part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Tpt. 1**: Trumpet 1 part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Tpts. 2/3**: Trumpets 2 and 3 parts with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Hns.**: Horns part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Trb. 1**: Trombone 1 part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Trbs. 2/3**: Trombones 2 and 3 parts with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Euph.**: Euphonium part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Tba.**: Tuba part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Mlts.**: Mallets part with a *ff* dynamic marking and the instruction "Chimes only".
- Perc. 1**: Percussion 1 part with a *ff* dynamic marking.
- Perc. 2**: Percussion 2 part with a *ff* dynamic marking and the instruction "Toms".
- Timp.**: Timpani part with a *ff* dynamic marking.

The score is divided into measures 48, 49, 50, and 51. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The woodwind and brass parts feature complex rhythmic patterns, often with slurs and accents. The percussion parts include various rhythmic textures, with specific instructions for chimes and toms.

54

Fls./Pic. *mp*

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1 *mp* *mf*

Cl. 2/3 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *mp*

Tpts. 2/3 *mp*

Hns. *mp*

Trb. 1 *mp*

Trbs. 2/3 *mp* *a2* *(b)*

Euph. *mp*

Tba. *mp*

Mlts. *Bells only* *mf* *mp* *Xylo.* *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf* *p* *Tri.*

Perc. 2 *ff* *mf*

Timp.

-Picc.

Fls./Picc. *mf* *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2/3 *a2* *mf* *f* *a2*

B. Cl.

A. Saxes *a2* *f*

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpts. 2/3

Hns. *a2* *f*

Trb. 1

Trbs. 2/3

Euph.

Tba.

Mfts.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *p*

Timp. *mp*

58 59 60 61

64 Div.

Fls./Picc. *ff* *mp*

Ob. *ff* *mp*

Bsn. *f* *mp*

Cl. 1 *ff* *mp*

Cl. 2/3 *ff* *mp*

B. Cl. *f* *mp*

A. Saxes *ff* *mp*

T. Sax. *f* *mp*

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

Tpt. 1 *f* *mp* *mf*

Tpts. 2/3 *f* *mp* *mf* *a2*

Hns. *ff* *mp* *mf* *a2*

Trb. 1 *f* *mp* *mf*

Trbs. 2/3 *f* *mp* *mf*

Euph. *f* *mp* *mf*

Tba. *f* *mp* *mf*

Mlts. *f* *mp* *mf* *Xylo.*

Perc. 1 *mf* *p* *mp*

Perc. 2 *f*

Timp. *f* *ff* *F to G*

62 63 64 65 66

This page of a musical score, numbered 72, contains parts for various instruments. The woodwind section includes Flutes/Piccolo, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2/3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpet 1, Trumpets 2/3, Horns, Trombone 1, Trombones 2/3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Mallets, Percussion 1 (with stick and mallets), and Timpani. The score shows a dynamic progression from mezzo-forte (mf) to fortissimo (ff) across the measures. Performance markings such as accents, slurs, and breath marks are present throughout. Measure numbers 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, and 72 are indicated at the bottom of the page.

molto rall.

Div.

Fls./Pic. *mf* *p*

Ob. *mf* *p*

Bsn. *mf*

Cl. 1 *mf* *p*

Cl. 2/3 *a2* *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *p*

T. Sax. *p*

B. Sax. *mf*

Tpt. 1 *p* *bell tones* *sim.*

Tpts. 2/3 *p* *bell tones* *sim.*

Hns. *p* *bell tones* *sim.* *a2*

Trb. 1 *p* *bell tones* *sim.* *p*

Trbs. 2/3 *p* *bell tones* *sim.* *a2* *p*

Euph. *p*

Tba. *mf*

Mts. *mf*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *Mark Tree* *mf* *p* *mf* (w/soft mallets)

Timp. *pp*

73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81

Adagio $\text{♩} = 72$

rall.

86 A tempo

This page of a musical score covers measures 82 through 86. The score is for a full orchestra and woodwind section. The key signature is three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Adagio' with a quarter note equal to 72 beats per minute. A 'rallentando' (rall.) marking is present above measures 84 and 85, followed by a return to 'A tempo' at measure 86. The woodwind parts include Flute/Piccolo, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2/3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass parts include Trumpet 1, Trumpets 2/3, Horns, Trombone 1, Trombones 2/3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion parts include Mallets (Vibes), Percussion 1, Percussion 2, and Timpani. Dynamics range from piano (p) to mezzo-forte (mf). The score features various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks. A 'solo' marking is placed above the Flute/Piccolo part in measure 84. The Vibes part is marked 'Vibes (slow motor)'. The Percussion 2 part has a 'p' dynamic in measure 85 and an 'mp' dynamic in measure 86. The Timpani part has a 'p' dynamic in measure 82. The overall texture is dense and expressive, with many instruments playing sustained notes or moving lines.

Fls./Pic. *tutti*
mf

Ob. *one player*
mf

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Cl. 2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpts. 2/3

Hns.

Trb. 1

Trbs. 2/3

Euph.

Tba.

Mls. *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf*

Timp.

87 88 89 90

molto rall.

94 Andante $\text{♩} = 80$

Fls./Picc. *mp* *tutti* *f* *p*

Ob. *mp* *f* *p*

Bsn. *f* *mf*

Cl. 1 *f* *p*

Cl. 2/3 *f* *p*

B. Cl. *f* *mf*

A. Saxes *f* *mf*

T. Sax. *f* *mf*

B. Sax. *f* *mf*

Tpt. 1 *f* *tutti*

Tpts. 2/3 *f*

Hns. *mp* *f* *a2*

Trb. 1 *mp* *f* *mf*

Trbs. 2/3 *mp* *f* *mf*

Euph. *f* *mf*

Tba. *f* *mf*

Mlts. *mp* *f* *mf*

Perc. 1 *p* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 2 *p* *f* *p* *f*

Timp. *p* *f*

91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98

Fls./Pic. *mf* *f* *solo* *mp*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1 *mf* *f* *mp*

Cl. 2/3 *f* *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes *f* *mp*

T. Sax. *f* *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpts. 2/3

Hns. *mp*

Trb. 1 *mp*

Trbs. 2/3 *mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tba. *mp*

Mlts. *f* *mp*

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2 (w/stick) *mp*

Timp. *p*

99 100 101 102 103 104 105

Fls./Picc. *tutti mp*

Ob. *tutti mp*

Bsn. *pp*

Cl. 1 *pp*

Cl. 2/3 *pp*

B. Cl. *pp*

A. Saxes *solo*

T. Sax. *p*

B. Sax. *p*

Tpt. 1 *mp*

Tpts. 2/3 *mp*

Hns. *mp*

Trb. 1 *mp*

Trbs. 2/3 *a2 mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tba. *mf*

Mlts. *Xylo. mp*

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2 *Tri. mf p mf*

Timp. *mp*

123 124 125 126 127 128 129

This musical score page covers measures 130 to 134. The instruments are arranged in the following order from top to bottom: Fls./Picc., Ob., Bsn., Cl. 1, Cl. 2/3, B. Cl., A. Saxes, T. Sax., B. Sax., Tpt. 1, Tpts. 2/3, Hns., Trb. 1, Trbs. 2/3, Euph., Tba., Mlts., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, and Timp. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (mf, f, ff, p), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions like *tutti* and *+picc.*. Measure numbers 130, 131, 132, 133, and 134 are printed at the bottom of the page.

Fls./Pic. *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz* *mp*

Ob. *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz*

Bsn. *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz*

Cl. 1 *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz* *mp*

Cl. 2/3 *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz* *mp* *a2*

B. Cl. *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz* *a2*

A. Saxes *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz* *mp* *a2*

T. Sax. *ff* *sfz*

B. Sax. *ff* *sfz*

Tpt. 1 *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz* *a2*

Tpts. 2/3 *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz*

Hns. *ff* *sfz*

Trb. 1 *ff* *sfz*

Trbs. 2/3 *ff* *sfz*

Euph. *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz*

Tba. *ff* *sfz*

Mlts. *Bells* *Chimes ff*

Perc. 1 *ff* *mf* *ff* *f* *ff*

Perc. 2 *p* *Cr. Cym.* *ff* *Ch.*

Timp. *ff* *mf* *ff* *sfz*

135 *ff* *mf* *ff* *sfz* 136 *ff* *mf* *ff* *sfz* 137 *ff* *mf* *ff* *sfz* 138 139

This page contains a musical score for an orchestra, spanning measures 140 to 144. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with staves for woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The woodwind section includes Flutes/Piccolos, Oboes, Bassoons, Clarinets 1 and 2/3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophones, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpets 1 and 2/3, Horns, Trombones 1 and 2/3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Mallets, Percussion 1, Percussion 2 (with Suspended Cymbal), and Timpani. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth-note runs and syncopated rhythms. Dynamic markings such as *mp*, *ff*, *f*, *mf*, and *p* are used throughout. Performance instructions like *a2* and *Sus. Cym.* are also present. The key signature has two flats, and the time signature is 4/4. Measure numbers 140, 141, 142, 143, and 144 are printed at the bottom of the page.

Fls./Pic. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1 *ff*

Cl. 2/3 *ff*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *ff*

Tpts. 2/3 *ff*
3rd Div.

Hns. *ff*

Trb. 1 *ff*

Trbs. 2/3 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tba. *ff*

Mlts. *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff* *p*

Perc. 2 *ff* *mf* *(w/medium mallets)* *ff*

Timp. *ff*

145 146 147 148 149

Fls./Picc. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2/3 *mf* *a2*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes *mp* *a2*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *p*

Tpts. 2/3 *p*

Hns. *p*

Trb. 1 *p* *mp*

Trbs. 2/3 *p* *mp* *a2*

Euph. *p*

Tba. *mp*

Mlts. *mf* *Bells*

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2

Timp. *mp*

150 151 152 153 154 155

Fls./Pic. *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *mf*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2/3 *a2* *f*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes *mf* *a2* *f* *ff* *a2*

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

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

Tpt. 1 *mf* *f* *mf*

Tpts. 2/3 *a2* *mf* *f* *mf* *a2* *ff*

Hns. *a2* *mf* *f* *ff* *a2*

Trb. 1 *mf* *ff* *a2*

Trbs. 2/3 *mf* *ff*

Euph. *mf* *f* *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Mlts. *ff*

Perc. 1 *mf* (w/stick)

Perc. 2 *mf* *f*

Timp. *mf* *f*

156 157 158 159 160 161

Fls./Pic. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1 *ff* *mp*

Cl. 2/3 *ff* *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes *a2* *ff* *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *ff* *mp*

Tpts. 2/3 *a2* *mp*

Hns. *a2* *mp*

Trb. 1 *mf*

Trbs. 2/3 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *mp*

Mfts.

Perc. 1 *f* *mp*

Perc. 2 *p* *f* *mp*

Timp. *p* *mf* *Bb to A*

162 163 164 165 166

Fls./Picc. *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Cl. 1 *mf* *ff*

Cl. 2/3 *mf* *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Saxes *f* *ff* *mf*

T. Sax. *f* *ff* *mf*

B. Sax. *ff*

Tpt. 1 *mf* *a2* *ff* *mf*

Tpts. 2/3 *mf* *a2* *ff* *mf*

Hns. *f* *ff* *mf*

Trb. 1 *ff* *mf*

Trbs. 2/3 *ff* *mf*

Euph. *ff*

Tba. *ff*

Mlts. *Xylo.* *mp* *Chimes* *ff* *mf*

Perc. 1 *mp* *ff* *mp*

Perc. 2 *p* *ff*

Timp. *ff*

167 168 169 170 171

Fls./Picc. *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2/3 *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Saxes

T. Sax.

B. Sax. *f*

Tpt. 1

Tpts. 2/3

Hns.

Trb. 1

Trbs. 2/3

Euph. *f*

Tba. *f*

Mts.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp. *p*
(w/hard mallets)

172 *f* 173 174

Fls./Picc. *ff* *sffz*

Ob. *ff* *sffz*

Bsn. *ff* *sffz*

Cl. 1 *ff* *sffz*

Cl. 2/3 *ff* *sffz*

B. Cl. *ff* *sffz*

A. Saxes *ff* *sffz*

T. Sax. *ff* *sffz*

B. Sax. *ff* *sffz*

Tpt. 1 *ff* *sffz*

Tpts. 2/3 *ff* *sffz*

Hns. *ff* *sffz*

Trb. 1 *ff* *sffz*

Trbs. 2/3 *ff* *sffz*

Euph. *ff* *sffz*

Tba. *ff* *sffz*

Mlts. *ff* *sffz*

Perc. 1 *ff* *fff* *sffz* *sffz*

Perc. 2 *ff* *mf* *fff* *sffz* *sffz* Choke

Timp. *ff* *fff* *sffz* *sffz*

175 176 177 178