

Like a River

Based on the African-American Spiritual, *Peace Like a River*

Arranged by
Robert Sheldon

Concert Band
Full Score & Parts
\$80

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Program notes...

Like a River

Commissioned by the Pontiac Municipal Band, Pontiac, Illinois

Scot Schickel, Director

Grade 4 - 4:25

One of my greatest joys (and challenges) in accepting commissions is making every attempt to accommodate the musical, and sometimes extra-musical requests made by the commissioning party. I have found that these suggestions have sent me in musical directions I may never have thought of pursuing, and am therefore immensely grateful for the many ideas that have been presented to me over the years. For this piece I was asked to consider using a hymn, and writing in a big-band or Dixieland style. Obviously, not all hymns lend themselves to such treatment, but spirituals by nature are often an excellent choice, and for me, *Peace Like a River* seemed the perfect vehicle to present in a variety of styles.

This setting opens with a feeling of floating on a river, and quotes part of the theme of another tune that references a river, *Shenandoah*. The river's currents take the listener into unexpected waters through a sweeping key change, and then into a New Orleans style Dixieland band's rendition. A brief percussion interlude leads us to a "Big Band" style arrangement harkening back to the 1940's, giving way to a majestic conclusion.

Like a River is my the second commission I have written for the Pontiac Municipal Band, the first being *Riverside Overture* ten years ago in 2013, written for the opening of their new band shell on the river. While I did not choose the spiritual, *Peace Like a River* for the use of the word "river" in the title, it does somehow feel like a very happy accident! I certainly want to thank the band and their director, Scot Schickel for inviting me to write for this wonderful ensemble again.

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About the arranger...

One of the most performed composers of concert band music, Robert Sheldon's compositions are performed around the world and appear on many international concert and contest lists. With over three million copies of his compositions, arrangements 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.

This musical score page covers measures 8 through 16. The instruments listed on the left are Flute (Fls.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1), Clarinet 2/3 (Cl. 2/3), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Saxes), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpets 2/3 (Tpts. 2/3), Horns (Hns.), Trumpet 1 (Trb. 1), Trumpets 2/3 (Trbs. 2/3), Euphonium (Euph.), Trombone (Tba.), Mellophone (Mlts.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Timpani (Timp.).

Key musical features include:

- Fls. and Ob.:** Enter in measure 11 with a melodic line marked *mf*.
- Bsn.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- Cl. 1 and Cl. 2/3:** Both have dynamic crescendos from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- B. Cl.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- A. Saxes:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11, and a *mf* dynamic in measure 15.
- T. Sax.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- B. Sax.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- Tpt. 1 and Tpts. 2/3:** Enter in measure 12 with a melodic line marked *mf* and *tutti*.
- Hns.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11, and a *mf* dynamic in measure 15.
- Trb. 1 and Trbs. 2/3:** Both have dynamic crescendos from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- Euph.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- Tba.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11.
- Mlts.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mp* in measure 11, and a *Vibes. (pedal all slurs) slow motor* instruction in measure 12.
- Perc. 2:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mf* in measure 11, and a *p* dynamic in measure 15.
- Timp.:** Features a dynamic crescendo from *p* to *mf* in measure 11.

Poco Accel. **21** Poco più mosso
+Picc. ♩ = 92

Fls. *mf* *mp* *f*

Ob. *mf* *mp* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *mp* *f*

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

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

B. Cl. *mf* *mp* *f*

A. Saxes *f* *mp* *f*

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

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

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

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

Hns. *f* *mp* *f*

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

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

Euph. *mf* *mp* *f*

Tba. *mf* *mp* *f*

Mlts. *f* *mp* *f*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf* *mf* *mp* *f*

Timp. *f*

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

Rall.

Rubato

Fls. *p solo*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mp* 1 player

Cl. 1 *mp* 1 player

Cl. 2/3 *mp* 2 players

B. Cl. *mp* Bsns. cue Play 1 player

A. Saxes *mp* 1 player solo *mf*

T. Sax. *pp*

B. Sax. *p* *pp*

Tpt. 1 *p* Ob. solo cue (st. mute) *mf*

Tpts. 2/3 *p*

Hns. *pp*

Trb. 1 *pp*

Trbs. 2/3 *pp*

Euph. *pp*

Tba. *p* *pp*

Mlts.

Perc. 1

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

Timp. *mf* *f* *D to C*

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

Accel.

Fls.

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.

mp
Tutti

mp
Tutti

mf

Tutti

mp
Tutti

mf

mf

mf

mp

tutti
(med. motor)

mp

(w/stick)

mp

47 Moderate swing

♩ = 104

Fls.

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.

Tutti

p

p

f

f

mp

mf

p

3

3

3

3

solo

solo

solo

solo

47 48 49 50 51 52 53

55

Rall.

Fls. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cl. 1 *tutti* *mf*

Cl. 2/3 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

Tpt. 1 *tutti* *mf*

Tpts. 2/3 *mf*

Hns. *mf*

Trb. 1 *mf*

Trbs. 2/3 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *mf* *tutti*

Mlts.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *p* (w/mallets)

Timp.

Rubato **Rall.**

Fls.

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.

one player

one player

one player

solo

mf

3

73

Fls. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *ff* *mf*

Cl. 1 *ff*

Cl. 2/3 *ff*

B. Cl. *ff* *mf*

A. Saxes *ff* *mf*

T. Sax. *ff* *mf*

B. Sax. *ff* *mf*

Tpt. 1 *ff* *mf*

Tpts. 2/3 *ff* *mf*

Hns. *ff* *mf*

Trb. 1 *ff* *mf*

Trbs. 2/3 *ff* *mf*

Euph. *ff* *mf*

Tba. *ff* *mf*

Mlts. *ff* *mf* (*fast motor*)

Perc. 1 *ff* *mp*

Perc. 2 *ff* *sfz* *mp* Cr. Cyms. (*choke or use closed hi hat*)

Timp. *ff* *mf* *E♭ to F*

71 72 73 74 75 76 77

This page contains the musical score for measures 78 through 84. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Fls. (Flute)
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Bsn. (Bassoon)
- Cl. 1 (Clarinet 1)
- Cl. 2/3 (Clarinet 2 and 3)
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- A. Saxes (Alto Saxophones)
- T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone)
- B. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone)
- Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1)
- Tpts. 2/3 (Trumpets 2 and 3)
- Hns. (Horn)
- Trb. 1 (Trombone 1)
- Trbs. 2/3 (Trombones 2 and 3)
- Euph. (Euphonium)
- Tba. (Tuba)
- Mlts. (Mellophone)
- Perc. 1 (Percussion 1)
- Perc. 2 (Percussion 2)
- Timp. (Timpani)

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (*mf*, *f*, *ff*), articulation marks (accents, slurs), and performance instructions. A dynamic crescendo is indicated at the bottom of the page, starting at *f* in measure 79 and reaching *ff* in measure 80.

Fls.

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.

85 86 87 88 89 90

ff *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

f *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

6 6 6 6 6 6

3 3 3 3 3 3

Fls. $\text{♩} = 88$

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.

91 92 93 94 95 96 97

sfz *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *fff*

Fls. Straight 8th notes

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.

sfz *fp* *mf* *mp* *ff* *mf* *sfz* *fp*

Rall.

Grandioso

Rall.

$\text{♩} = 76$

Fls. *fp* *tr* *ff*

Ob. *fp* *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Cl. 1 *fp* *tr* *ff*

Cl. 2/3 *fp* *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Saxes *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

B. Sax. *ff*

Tpt. 1 *ff* *fp* *ff*

Tpts. 2/3 *ff* *fp* *ff*

Hns. *ff*

Trb. 1 *ff*

Trbs. 2/3 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tba. *ff*

Mts. *Bells ff*

Perc. 1 *ff* *Fill (ala drum set)*

Perc. 2 *ff* *damp*

Timp. *ff*

104 105 *f* 106 107 *ff* 108 109