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# ***Suspended***

by RICK HIRSCH (2005, revised 2010)

## **FOR LARGE JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

5 Saxes (1 soprano\*, 1 alto, 2 tenors, 1 bari)

5 Trumpets

4 Trombones (incl. 1 Bass Tbn.)

Piano

(Bass – tacet)

Drums

*\* sub. Alto part provided*

**IMPROVISED SOLO: Soprano Saxophone**

**DURATION: 4 minutes**

**LEVEL: MEDIUM-ADVANCED**

**HIRSCHMUSIC.com**

*Good, jazzy music from Pennsylvania*

## PROGRAM NOTES

In 2005 I received an Arts Council grant to compose a suite portraying Talleyrand Park, an amazing community space in downtown Bellefonte, PA.

There's an elegant suspension bridge for pedestrians that allows them to cross Talleyrand's Spring Creek in style. This wrought-iron bridge was modeled after the Brooklyn Bridge, and designed by internationally-known metal artist (and Bellefonte resident) Rob Fisher.

*Suspended* recognizes the artfulness of a bridge. Since, as a wire suspension bridge has no support underneath, this composition is scored for winds and percussion only, no bass.

The other movements of the Talleyrand suite portray the quietly rushing Spring Creek as it courses through the park (*Lifeblood*), the feed-us-PLEASE ducks (*Free Food?*), the snow-covered park at night (*Placid*), and the hard work and bold vision of those who created the park (*Aspire*).

Thank you for playing this unusual piece of music,  
~ Rick Hirsch

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## REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE NOTES

In many ways, this entire work is an orchestration of the pedaled *Minimalist* figure that carries throughout the piano part. Often, the wind melodies are only parts of the whole, making sense only when combined with the other players in the section.

Wind players will have more success approaching this piece with the control, discipline, and clarity needed for Symphonic wind music. When in doubt, encourage them to play lightly and clearly.

In certain ways, *Suspended* isn't really a 'jazz piece.' And, as is heard on the recording, the improvised saxophone lines are purely melodic gestures...not Be-Bop or other idiomatic jazz figures.

As a side note, the trumpet melody at **O** is a re-setting of the main theme of *Placid*, the fourth movement in this suite.

As another side note, I've been told that *Suspended* is what Terry Riley might have composed if he had written for big band. I don't know his music very well (yet), but I believe that was meant to have been a way to tell me that "this is cool, and not the typical jazz band piece."



Suspended . . . 2

9

A

AG 16

(AD-LIB FILL)  
B<sub>SUS</sub> 4

B<sub>SUS</sub> 4 WEAVE IN & OUT OF TENOR AD-LIB

SLIGHT CRESC. POCO A POCO

(AD-LIB) WEAVE IN & OUT OF SOPRANO AD-LIB

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**B**

(As 1s)

**C**

B♭ SOP 1 *mp*

E♭ ALTO 2 *p*

**SAXES**

B♭ TENOR 3 *p*

B♭ TENOR 4 *p*

E♭ BARITONE *p*

1ST

2ND

**B♭ TRPTS**

3RD

4TH

5TH

1ST

2ND

**TRBS**

3RD

4TH

PIANO *(KEEP HOLDING PEDAL...)*

BASS

DRUMS



D

**SAXES**

Bb SOP 1 *mf*

Eb ALTO 2 *mp*

Bb TENOR 3 *mp*

Bb TENOR 4 *mp*

Eb BARITONE *mp*

**Bb TRPTS**

1ST

2ND

3RD *p* (IN STAND) SNEAK BREATHS WHEN NEEDED (8)

4TH *p* (IN STAND) SNEAK BREATHS WHEN NEEDED (8)

5TH *p* (IN STAND) SNEAK BREATHS WHEN NEEDED (8)

**TRBS**

1ST *STRAIGHT MUTE* *mf*

2ND

3RD

4TH

PIANO *Ped.*

BASS

DRUMS









Suspended . . . 7

(I)

(J)

**SAXES**

B♭ SOP 1

E♭ ALTO 2

B♭ TENOR 3

B♭ TENOR 4

E♭ BARITONE

**B♭ TRPTS**

1ST

2ND

3RD

4TH

5TH

**TRBS**

1ST

2ND

3RD

4TH

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS