

MOTHERLESS CHILD

ca. 4 minutes

2025

INSTRUMENTATION

Piccolo

Flute 1-2

Oboe 1-2

Bassoon 1-2

Contrabassoon

B♭ Clarinet 1-3 (*1st part has divisi)

B♭ Bass Clarinet

B♭ Contrabass Clarinet

E♭ Alto Saxophone 1-2

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpets 1-3

F Horn 1-4

Tenor Trombone 1-3

Bass Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Double Bass

Piano

Timpani

Percussion 1: Vibraphone

Percussion 2: Triangle, Bass Drum

Percussion 3: Suspended Cymbal

Percussion 4: Glockenspiel, Xylophone

Percussion 5: Marimba

PROGRAM NOTES

Motherless Child is a setting for wind band originally composed as the second movement of *Spiritual Symphony*. The work explores the emotions of a slave's state of mind serving as both a scherzo-like movement for the *Symphony*, as well as a lament. The opening material establishes a sense of anxiety and disorientation. The music here paints the scene of someone forcefully taken from their home and brought to a new country in chains - unaware of what is to become of them. The chorus of the traditional spiritual is then heard in its most resonant and hopeful verse as a trombone chorale, but the agitated flute and xylophone mark consistent pings of pain and rage held within. The second half of the work is held together a lament bass progression. All the while, inner anguish builds and seeps out through solos by the clarinet and alto saxophone before exploding into a visceral cry for help and freedom. The work then closes with introspection swallowing those untamed feelings. One's survival depends on it.

MOTHERLESS CHILD

4

8

Picc.
 Fl. 1, 2
 Ob. 1, 2
 Bas. 1, 2
 Chon.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2, 3
 B. Cl.
 Ch. Cl.
 Alto Sax. 1, 2
 Ten. Sax.
 Bar. Sax.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2, 3
 Hrn. 1, 2
 Hrn. 3, 4
 Tbn. 1
 Tbn. 2, 3
 B. Tbn.
 Euph.
 Tba.
 Ttb.
 Timp.
 Perc.
 Perc. 1 (Wb.)
 Perc. 2 (Tol.)
 Perc. 3 (Snr. Cym.)
 Perc. 4 (Glock.)
 Perc. 5 (Mar.)

Musical score for "Motherless Child" featuring various instruments including Piccolo, Flutes, Oboes, Bassoon, Clarinets, Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, and Percussion. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *pp*, and *mf*. A rehearsal mark "8" is present at the top of the page. The percussion section includes five parts: 1 (Wb.), 2 (Tol.), 3 (Snr. Cym.), 4 (Glock.), and 5 (Mar.).

MOTHERLESS CHILD

This page of the musical score for "Motherless Child" contains the following parts and measures:

- Flute (Flc.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Flute 1 & 2 (Fl. 1, 2):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Bassoon (Bas.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Clarinet (Cl.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Clarinet 1 & 2 (Cl. 1, 2):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Bari Saxophone (Bari. Sax.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Trumpet (Tpt.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Trumpet 1 & 2 (Tpt. 1, 2):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Horn (Hn.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Horn 1 & 2 (Hn. 1, 2):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Horn 3 & 4 (Hn. 3, 4):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Trombone (Tbn.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Trombone 1 & 2 (Tbn. 1, 2):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Tuba (Tba.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *pp*.
- Drum (Dr.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Timpani (Timp.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Percussion (Perc.):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Percussion 1 (Vib.) (Perc. 1):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Percussion 2 (Tm.) (Perc. 2):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Percussion 3 (Sax. Cym.) (Perc. 3):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Percussion 4 (Zock.) (Perc. 4):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.
- Percussion 5 (Mar.) (Perc. 5):** Measures 11-15. Includes dynamics *f* and *p*.

Measure numbers 11, 13, 14, 15, and 16 are indicated at the bottom of the page.

MOTHERLESS CHILD

19

Picc.
 Fl. 1, 2
 Ob. 1, 2
 Bas. 1, 2
 Clarinet
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2, 3
 B. Cl.
 Ch. Cl.
 Alto Sax. 1, 2
 Ten. Sax.
 Bari. Sax.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2, 3
 Hn. 1, 2
 Hn. 3, 4
 Tbn. 1
 Tbn. 2, 3
 B. Tbn.
 Euph.
 Tba.
 Tbn.
 Tmp.
 Perc.
 Perc. 1 (Vib.)
 Perc. 2 (Tol.)
 Perc. 3 (Sn. Cym.)
 Perc. 4 (Zock.)
 Perc. 5 (Mar.)

Musical score for "Motherless Child" starting at measure 19. The score includes parts for Piccolo, Flutes (1, 2), Oboes (1, 2), Bassoons (1, 2), Clarinets (1, 2, 3), Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophones (1, 2), Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpets (1, 2, 3), Horns (1, 2, 3, 4), Trombones (1, 2, 3), Bass Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Trombone, Snare Drum, and various Percussion instruments (Vibraphone, Tom-toms, Snare/Cymbal, Zoster, Maracas). The score features dynamic markings such as *f*, *pp*, *mf*, and *ff*, and includes performance instructions like "Play" and "1 only". The page number 19 is indicated at the top.

MOTHERLESS CHILD

This page of the musical score for "Motherless Child" contains the following instruments and parts:

- Flutes:** Flc. 1.2, Fl. 1.2, Fl. 2.2
- Clarinets:** Cl. 1.2, Cl. 1, Cl. 2.3, B. Cl., Cl. Cl.
- Saxophones:** Alto Sax. 1.2, Ten. Sax., Bari. Sax.
- Trumpets:** Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2.3
- Trombones:** Tbn. 1.2, Tbn. 3.4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2.3, B. Tbn.
- Other Instruments:** Euph., Tba., Db., Timp., Perc. (Perc. 1 (Wb.), Perc. 2 (Tr.), Perc. 3 (Gag. Cym.), Perc. 4 (Glock.), Perc. 5 (Mar.))

The score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a variety of dynamics including *pp*, *mp*, *f*, and *ff*. The percussion section includes a snare drum, tom-toms, cymbals, glockenspiel, and maracas.