

Oh! My Phoebus

for unaccompanied trombone

by

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Oh! My Phoebus

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Program Notes

The Hunch-Back of Notre Dame was the inspiration for *Oh! My Phoebus*. The work is not a literal, programmatic translation, but was the source which inspired the “creative juices.” The specific scene which started my imagination involved the assignation between the gypsy, La Esmeralda and Captain Phoebus de Chateaupers. Unbeknown to La Esmeralda, the Cardinal Archdeacon Claude Frollo was concealed in the attic watching the two unrealized lovers. Claude Frollo is secretly in love with La Esmeralda. When he thinks the union is going to take place, he emerges from hiding, crashes through the ceiling, and stabs the Captain. Assuming the Captain is dead, he sneaks out through a window into the night. The police come and arrest La Esmeralda for the murder. Eventually she is condemned to die. Her hanging sets up the famous scene where Quasimodo sneaks down from the Cathedral and rescues her. As it turns out the Captain survives the attempted murder, but this fact remains unknown to the courts and the Archdeacon. All of the terrible events are force to their culmination by destiny. *Oh! My Phoebus* was commissioned by Tennessee Technological University’s Kevin Chiarizzio. Dr. Chiarizzio premiered it on February 15, 1999.

Coda

In the fall of 2001 the composer submitted *Oh! My Phoebus* for consideration for performance at the College Music Society’s Southern Chapter Meeting which was held at Union University in Jackson, TN. On March 1, 2002, trombonist Greg Luscombe performed the piece at the conference.

Performance Notes

Oh! My Phoebus is written in the style of a recitative/aria. The slower, outer sections should be somewhat metrically free and be played with lots of emotion. Be careful not to rush the ends of the phrases or the rest which separate them. The outer parts should be played with lots of rubato. The faster, middle section, should be played in a strict, metrical manner. A slight adjustment to the meter is expected on the grace note patterns. The grace notes should be played before the beat. All accidentals effect only the pitch which follows. (Accidentals do not effect octaves.) The symbol with a four above the accidental means to play the following note a quarter step above or below instead of the traditional half step.

Duration: c. 6:00

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Oh! My Phoebus

for Kevin Chiarizzio

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Trombone

1 = 60 gl.

f *mf*

5 *p* *mf* speak (craggy voice) per - di -

9 play *sf* *f* slightly faster

13 *a tempo* *f*

16 speak (harsh whisper) play *f* slightly faster per - di - tion *a tempo*

20 *a tempo*

24 slightly faster *a tempo* *mp*

Oh! My Phoebus

28 speak
p *mp* *mp* Es-mer-al-da

32 play *a tempo* *rit.* *p* *pp*

36 speak(harsh whisper) play *f* speak play *f*
 La Es-mer-al-da per

41 speak play *f* *per* *slightly faster*

46 *a tempo* *mp* *p* *slightly faster* *f*

51 speak play *ff* *f* *per-di-tion*

55 speak play *per* *mp* $\text{♩} = 132$

57 *mf*

Oh! My Phoebus

60

p *f*

62

f

65

mf

$\text{♩} = 108$

69

p

73

mf

77

f

79

mf

$\text{♩} = 132$

81

mp

Oh! My Phoebus

83

85

mf *f* *ff*

89

mf *mp* *mp* *a tempo* ♩=60

94

mf

98

102

mf speak (craggy voice)

per - di - tion

106

p play

The composer welcomes any questions concerning *Oh! My Phoebus* and would greatly appreciate hearing about performances. Inquires and programs should be sent to:

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