

# *Tragic Suite*

for unaccompanied tuba

by

## Joe L. Alexander

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# Performance Notes

The first movement is performed in a somewhat free manner in regards to rhythm. Slight rests can be taken at the breath marks.

Movement two- There is no meter in this movement. The performer should not rush any of the passages and should allow plenty of silence between phrases.

The third movement is the first metered movement. It should be strictly adhered until the last two lines when the work returns to the non-metered material of the first movement.

Movement four is metered as well but contains several ritards which should be adamantly observed. The last two lines are a written out ritard and should not be rushed.

The final movement is metered until the last line. Once again, there should be no rubato in the metered section and the non-metered ending should not be rushed.

# Program Notes

*Tragic Suite*, by Joe L. Alexander, is for unaccompanied tuba and was composed during the summer of 1997. The composer states: "The superb abilities of tubist, Mike Dunn, were foremost in my mind while writing the work." The work consists of five distinct sections with the pitch classes G, F#, Ab and Eb playing a prominent roll through out the work. Mike Dunn premiered the work on July 21, 1997 at a concert sponsored by the Birmingham Art Music Alliance. *Tragic Suite* is dedicated to Mike Dunn.

Duration 7:45

# Tragic Suite

Dedicated to Mike Dunn

Joe L. Alexander

somewhat free  
very legato

I.

Tuba

*ff* *mf*

*f*

*f*

*mf*

*f*

*ff* *mf* *p*

*mf*

*f* *mf* *p*

II.

Very free

Tuba

The musical score for Tuba, section II, is titled "Very free". It consists of seven staves of music in bass clef. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mp* and ends with a fermata and a *f* dynamic. The second staff starts with *mf*, features a triplet of eighth notes, and ends with a *f* dynamic. The third staff begins with *mf* and contains two triplet markings. The fourth staff starts with a *mp* dynamic. The fifth staff begins with a *ff* dynamic and ends with a *pp* dynamic. The sixth staff starts with a *mp* dynamic. The seventh staff begins with a *mp* dynamic and concludes the section with a double bar line.

### III.

♩ = 92

Tuba

*f*

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*sfz*

*p*

*f*

*sfz*

Very free to end

*f*

*mp*

*ppp*

# IV.

♩ = 96

Tuba

*f*

*ff*

*mf*

*a tempo*

*rit.*

*f*

*slower (echo)*

*pp*

*slightly faster*

*ff*

*a tempo*

*f*

*f*

*sfz*

*mp*

*rit.*

V.

♩ = 72

Tuba

*f*

♩ = 96

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*rit.*

*a tempo*  
*p*

Very Free

*F* *G#* *A* *Bb* *C*

The composer welcomes any questions concerning *Tragic Suite* and would greatly appreciate hearing about performances. Inquires and programs should be sent to:

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