CRAIG CARNAHAN MUSIC CCM804



Craig Carnahan

Circus Music

Flute/Piccolo
Oboe
B-flat Clarinet
Horn in F
Bassoon
Percussion (one player):
snare drum, bass drum,
glockenspiel,
suspended cymbal,
whistle



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Performance Note:

Circus Music was conceived as a Grand March announcing the beginning of a circus performance and introducing the audience to the menagerie of supporting characters: ring master, clowns, snake charmer, contortionist, lion tamer, elephant handler, and the high wire act. But this March is quirky and slightly askew. This music would not find a home as the soundtrack for a Cirque du Soleil production. Rather, it's meant to accompany the rag tag troupes of harlequins and eccentrics that tour the Midwest each summer, pitching their tents in a field on the edge of town and providing a romanticized peek into the provocative and slightly scandalous life of the vagabond entertainer.

The music should bubble along at a comfortable gait with the exception of measures 97-117. Here, the horn and bassoon parts are leaden and laborious (announcing the arrival of the elephants), while the descending chromatic figure in the upper winds should connote the ethereal and gravity-defying trapeze and high wire acts — the voices *ad lib.* and quasi independent of each other.

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Duration: c. 6 minutes



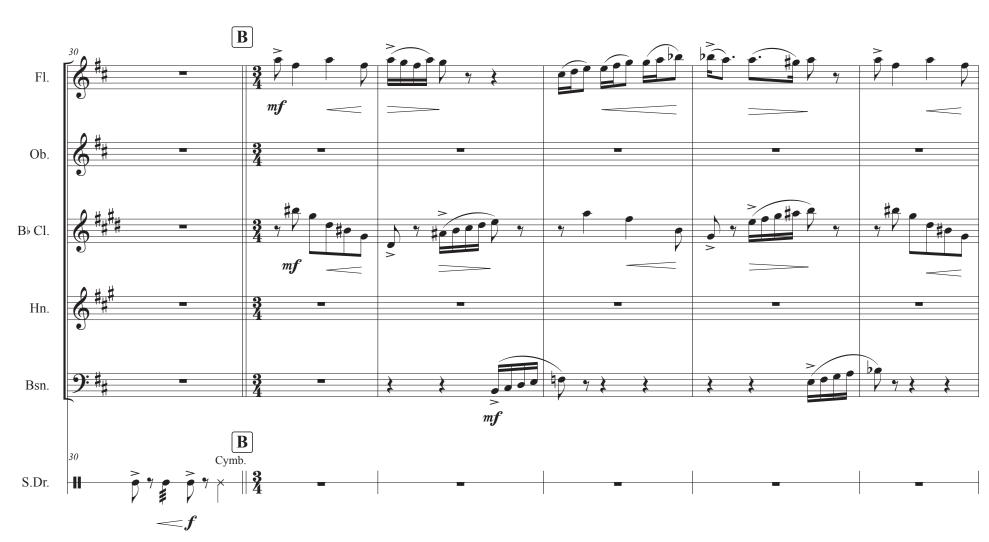
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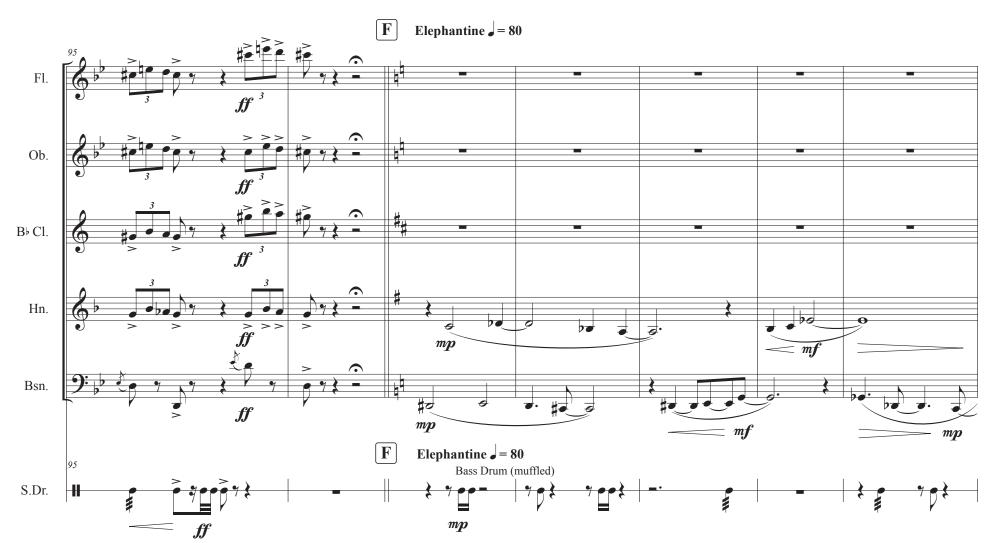














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