



for Concert Band

Bill Robinson

Burlesque for Concert Band

Duration: about 6 minutes 45 seconds

Composed 1990; 2004; February 10—March 6, 2015; corrected to Feb. 2024

In 1990 I wrote several works for my friend Fred Robinson who was the composer/arranger at Warner Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. Among these was a work for jazz band, *The Popular Music of Planet X* in three “Books”. The idea was the rather whimsical one that somewhere among the myriad planets there could be a civilization where the prime incentive for the music industry was *not mercenary*. Clearly such a planet must be far, far away. The Air Force didn’t seem to appreciate the effort, and the score and parts were returned. (When you bomb with the Air Force....you *REALLY BOMB!*)

In summer of 2004 I turned my attention to the old *PMPX*. I made many major alterations and had a brand new jazz band version. However, this work remained unperformed. Thus in 2015 I decided to try again for concert band in the form of a symphony. The only surviving movement from the old version was much of *Burlesque* (then called *Bump and Grind*), which was the last movement of *PMPX*. With this band symphony also unperformed, in late 2023 I used three of the movements for a piano quintet, with a new third movement, and then arranged it for orchestra for *Symphony No. 1*.

I am offering *Burlesque*, as well as the other movements of the now-defunct band version of *PMPX*, as separate works. (This particular piece is one of my most ironic, as my personal life has been just about the opposite of hedonistic. But then, Herman Melville didn’t need to be a whale to write *Moby Dick*.)

Considering that this is my personal vision of what music intended for mass consumption would be in a more ideal world, I’ve allowed myself to allow the influence of jazz and blues in a rather obvious manner. However, as all of my music, this is strictly in the classical tradition, with no improvisation, and to be treated in the same way as other “serious” art music—even, and perhaps especially, when it’s intended to be for fun. This piece could fit on either classical or pops concerts.

Performance Notes

The String Bass part is intended for an acoustic bass, as there are bowed passages. An electric bass may not be used in its stead. If an electronic keyboard is used instead of an acoustic piano, it should have a concert grand piano sound. However, the preference is strongly in favor of a real piano. Accidentals hold through the measure and not beyond.

Score cover; ad from The Washington Times, August 22, 1917

Parts covers; Theda Bara and friend.

Bill Robinson

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Burlesque

[6:45]

Allegro spogliarello (♩ = 106)

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The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Piccolo
- 2 Flutes
- 2 Oboes
- 2 Bassoons
- 3 Clarinets in B \flat
- Bass Clarinet in B \flat
- 2 E \flat Alto Saxophones
- B \flat Tenor Saxophone
- E \flat Baritone Saxophone
- Horn in F (4 parts)
- Trumpet in B \flat (3 parts, with plunger mute markings)
- Trombone (2 parts)
- BTbn.
- Euphonium
- Tuba (2 parts)
- Timpani
- Piano
- String Bass

Key features of the score include dynamic markings such as *p*, *mf*, *f*, *cresc.*, *non stacc.*, and *pizz.*, as well as performance instructions like *plunger mute* and *Open*. The score is written in 12/8 time and begins with a first-measure repeat sign.

Burlesque

7

Picc. *ff* *mp*

2 Fl. *ff* *mp* 1.

1 Ob. *ff* *mp*

2 Ob. *ff* *mp*

2 Bn. *ff*

1 Cl. 2 *ff*

3 Cl. 3 *ff*

BCl. *ff* *mp*

1 Alto Sax. *ff* *mp*

2 Alto Sax. *ff* *mp*

Ten. Sax. *ff*

Bari. Sax. *ff*

1 Hn. *ff* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

2 Hn. *ff*

3 Hn. *ff* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

4 Hn. *ff*

1 Tpt. 2 *ff* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* plunger mute + *mf* *Open*

3 Tpt. 3 *ff* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* plunger mute + *mf* *Open*

1 Tbn. *f* *ff*

2 Tbn. *ff*

BTbn. *ff*

Euph. *ff*

1 Tuba *ff*

2 Tuba *ff*

7 Timp. *f* *ff* *8^{va}*

7 Pno. *ff* *mp*

7 SB *mp*

Burlesque

14

Picc. *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *ff*

1

Fl. 2 *mp* *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *ff*

1

Ob. 2 *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *ff*

1

Bn. 2 *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *ff*

14

Cl. 1

BCl. *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *mp* *mf*

14

Alto Sax. 1 *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf*

2 *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf*

Ten. Sax. *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *ff*

Bari. Sax. *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *ff*

Hn. 4

1 *mp* *mf* *ff*

Tpt. 2 *ff*

3 *ff*

1

Tbn. 1 *ff*

2 *ff* *mp* *mf*

BTbn. *mp* *mf*

Euph. *ff*

1

Tuba 1 *mf* *mp* *mf*

2 *mp* *mf*

14

Pno. *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *ff*

14

SB *pp* < *mf* *pp* < *mf*

Burlesque

6

This musical score, titled "Burlesque", is for a full orchestra and includes a snare drum. The score is divided into systems, with measures 33 through 36 shown. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Picc.** (Piccolo): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Fl.** (Flute): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Ob.** (Oboe): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Bn.** (Bassoon): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Cl. 2** (Clarinet in Bb): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- BCl.** (Bass Clarinet): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Alto Sax.** (Alto Saxophone): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Ten. Sax.** (Tenor Saxophone): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Bari. Sax.** (Baritone Saxophone): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Hn.** (Horn): Parts 1, 2, 3, and 4, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Tpt.** (Trumpet): Parts 1, 2, and 3, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Tbn.** (Trombone): Part 2, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- BTbn.** (Baritone Trombone): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Euph.** (Euphonium): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Tuba**: Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Pno.** (Piano): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- SB** (Snare Drum): Part 1, starting at measure 33 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic.

The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes, and dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo) and *pp* (pianissimo). The key signature is Bb major, and the time signature is 4/4. The score ends with a fermata over the final measure.

This page of the musical score, titled "Burlesque" and numbered "40", features a variety of instruments. The score is divided into several systems. The first system includes Piccolo (Picc.), Flutes (Fl. 1 and 2), Oboes (Ob. 1 and 2), Bassoons (Bn. 1 and 2), Clarinets (Cl. 1, 2, and 3), Bass Clarinet (BCL.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax. 1 and 2), Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.). The second system includes Horns (Hn. 1, 2, 3, and 4), Trumpets (Tpt. 1, 2, and 3), Trombones (Tbn. 1 and 2), Baritone Trombone (BTbn.), Euphonium (Euph.), Tubas (Tuba 1 and 2), Piano (Pno.), and Sub Bass (SB). The score is written in 6/8 time and includes dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo) and *8^{va}* (octave up). The page number "7" is located in the top right corner.

Burlesque

8

This page of the musical score, titled "Burlesque", contains measures 43 through 48. The score is arranged for a large orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Picc.** (Piccolo): Rests in measures 43-47, then plays a melodic line in measure 48.
- Fl.** (Flute): Part 1 plays a melodic line; Part 2 rests.
- Ob.** (Oboe): Part 1 plays a melodic line; Part 2 rests.
- Cl.** (Clarinet): Parts 1, 2, and 3 play rhythmic accompaniment.
- BCl.** (Bass Clarinet): Rests.
- 2 Alto Sax.** (Alto Saxophone): Part 2 plays a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Ten. Sax.** (Tenor Saxophone): Rests.
- Bari. Sax.** (Baritone Saxophone): Rests.
- Hn.** (Horn): Parts 1, 2, 3, and 4 play rhythmic accompaniment.
- Tpt.** (Trumpet): Part 1 plays a melodic line; Part 2 rests.
- Tbn.** (Trombone): Parts 1 and 2 play rhythmic accompaniment.
- BTbn.** (Baritone Trombone): Plays rhythmic accompaniment.
- Euph.** (Euphonium): Plays rhythmic accompaniment.
- Tuba**: Parts 1 and 2 play rhythmic accompaniment.
- Timp.** (Timpani): Rests.
- SB** (Snare Drum): Plays rhythmic accompaniment.

The score features various musical notations including rests, melodic lines, and rhythmic patterns. A dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) is present in measures 47 and 48. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. Measure numbers 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 are clearly marked at the beginning of their respective staves.

2 Ob. *ff* ^{a2}

Cl. 1 *ff*

Hn. 1 *ff*
2 *mp* *ff*
3 *ff*
4 *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*
2 *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*

BTbn. *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*

Euph. *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*

Tuba 1 *mf* *mp* *f* *ff*
2 *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*

Timp. *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*

Pno. *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff* *

SB *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *ff*

The score is for a piece titled "Burlesque" on page 11. It features a complex orchestration with multiple staves for woodwinds (2 Oboes, Clarinet 1), brass (Horn 1-4, Trombone 1-2, Baritone Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba 1-2), percussion (Timpani), piano, and string bass. The music is divided into measures, with time signatures changing from 12/8 to 6/8 and then 3/8. Dynamic markings such as *mf*, *mp*, *ff*, and *f* are used throughout to indicate volume. The piano part includes a double bar line and a star symbol (*). The string bass part has a similar double bar line and star symbol.

71

69 Picc. *ff*

1 Fl. *ff* *p* *mf* *cresc.* *f*

2 Fl. *ff*

1 Ob. *p* *mf*

2 Ob.

1 Bn. *pp* *mp* *mf cresc.* *f*

2 Bn. *p*

69 Cl. 1 *mf*

BCL. *mp*

69 1 Hn. *p* *mp* *f*

2 Hn. *mp*

3 Hn.

4 Hn.

1 Tpt. *ff* *f*

2 Tpt. *ff* *f*

3 Tpt. *ff* *f*

1 Tbn. *ff*

2 Tbn.

BTbn.

Euph.

1 Tuba

2 Tuba

69 Timp. *p* *mp* *mp+* *mf* *mf+*

69 Pno. *p* *mp*

69 SB *mp* *mf cresc.* *f*

Burlesque

83

Ob. 1 *mp*

Ob. 2 *p*

Bn. 1 *mp*

Cl. 1 *p* *mp*

BCl. *mp*

Alto Sax. 1 *p* *mp*

Alto Sax. 2 *p* *mp*

Ten. Sax. *mp*

Hn. 3 *mp*

Timp. *mp*

Pno. *mp*

SB *mp*

89

90

Picc. *f*

Ob. 1 *mf* *f*

Ob. 2 *f*

Bn. 1 *mf* *mf+* *f*

Cl. 1 *mf+* *f*

Cl. 2 *mf* *f*

Cl. 3 *f*

Alto 1 Sax. *ff*

Ten. Sax. *mf* *ff*

Bari. Sax. *mp* *ff* *f*

Euph. *f*

Timp. *f*

Pno. *f* *f*

SB *f*

Burlesque

This page of a musical score, numbered 16, is titled "Burlesque". It features a large ensemble of instruments. The score is divided into several systems, each containing multiple staves for different instruments. The instruments listed on the left side of the page are: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Timpani (Timp.), Piano (Pno.), and Sub Bass (SB). The score begins at measure 102. The music is characterized by dynamic markings such as *f*, *f+*, *ff*, and *cresc.* (crescendo). The instrumentation includes woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The score is written in a standard musical notation with various clefs and time signatures. The overall style is that of a classical or orchestral score, likely from the 20th century.

109

Fl. 1
mf

Ob. 1
mf *f*

Cl. 1
mf+

Alto 1 Sax.
mf

Ten. Sax.
mf

Hn. 1
mf *cresc.* *f*

Hn. 3
mf

Tpt. 1
mf

BTbn.
mf *cresc.* *f*

Euph.
mf *cresc.* *f*

Tuba 1
mf *cresc.* *f*

Tuba 2
mf *f*

Pno.
mf *8va*

SB
mf *cresc.* *f*

Burlesque

115

Picc. *ff*

1 *ff*

Fl. 2 *ff*

1

Ob. 2

1 *ff*

2

115

Cl. 1 *ff*

2 *ff*

115

Alto Sax. *ff*

Ten. Sax. *ff*

115

1 *ff*

2 *ff*

3 *ff*

4 *ff*

1 *non stacc.*

2 *non stacc.*

3 *non stacc.*

1 *non stacc.*

2 *non stacc.*

3 *non stacc.*

1 *non stacc.*

2 *non stacc.*

BTbn. *ff*

Euph. *ff*

1 *non stacc.*

2 *ff non stacc.*

115

SB *ff*

poco rit. ----- Tempo I (♩. = 106)

121

Picc. *mf*

1 *mf* *f*

2 *mf*

1 *mf* *f*

2 *f* *mf* *f*

2 Bn. *f*

121

1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

3

BCl. 1

121

1 *f* *mf* *f*

2 *mf* *f*

Ten. Sax. *mf*

121

Hn. 1 *f* *mf*

1

2 *mf*

3 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f*

BTbn. *f*

1 *f*

2 *f*

121

SB *f*

127

Picc. *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Fl. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Fl. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Ob. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Ob. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Bn. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Bn. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Cl. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Cl. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Cl. 3 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

BCl. *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Alto Sax. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Alto Sax. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Ten. Sax. *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Hn. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Hn. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Hn. 3 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Tpt. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Tpt. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Tbn. 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Tbn. 2 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

BTbn. *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Euph. *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Tuba 1 *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Pno. *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

SB *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

pizz.

Burlesque
Dolce (♩ = 58)

133

Picc. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1 2

2 Bn.

Cl. 1 2

Alto 1 Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Hr. 1 3

Tpt. 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

BTbn.

Euph.

Tuba 1

Pno.

mp *f* *ff* *p*

140

Ob. 1

Bn. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Ten. Sax.

Hr. 1

Tuba 1

rit. *a tempo*

p cresc. *(mf)* *f* *p* *pp*

More Bump (♩.= 120)

147

Picc. *ff*

1 Fl. *ff*

2 Fl. *ff*

2 Ob. *ff*

2 Bn. *ff*

1 Cl. 2 *ff*

3 Cl. 3 *ff*

BCl. *ff*

1 Alto Sax. *ff*

2 Alto Sax. *ff*

Ten. Sax. *ff*

Bari. Sax. *ff*

1 Hn. *ff*

2 Hn. *ff*

3 Hn. *ff*

4 Hn. *ff*

1 Tpt. 2 *ff*

3 Tpt. 3 *ff*

1 Tbn. *ff*

2 Tbn. *ff*

BTbn. *ff*

Euph. *ff*

1 Tuba *ff*

2 Tuba *ff*

147

Timp. *ff*

147

Pno. *ff*

147

SB *ff*

arco

Burlesque

154

Picc.

2 Fl.

1 Ob.

2 Ob.

2 Bn.

1 Cl. 2

3 Cl. 3

BCl.

1 Alto Sax.

2 Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

1 Hn.

2 Hn.

3 Hn.

4 Hn.

1 Tpt. 2

3 Tpt. 3

1 Tbn.

2 Tbn.

BTbn.

Euph.

1 Tuba

2 Tuba

154

Timp.

154

Pno.

154

SB

Burlesque

rit.

166 Picc. *fff* *8^{va}*

1 Fl. *fff*

2 Ob. *fff* a 2

2 Bn. *fff* a 2

1 Cl. 1 *fff*

2 Cl. 2 *fff*

3 Cl. 3 *fff*

BCl. *fff*

2 Alto Sax. *fff* a 2

Ten. Sax. *fff*

Bari. Sax. *fff*

1 Hn. *fff*

2 Hn. *fff*

3 Hn. *fff*

4 Hn. *fff*

1 Tpt. 1 *fff*

2 Tpt. 2 *fff*

3 Tpt. 3 *fff*

1 Tbn. *fff*

2 Tbn. *fff*

BTbn. *fff*

Euph. *fff*

1 Tuba *fff*

2 Tuba *fff*

166 Timp. *fff*

166 Pno. *fff* *8^{va}*

166 SB *fff*