

The Big Note

for Clarinet, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, and Tuba

Composed 1990; drastically re-written June 1-28, 2004

First movement composed Oct. 28—Nov. 12, 2011

Duration: approximately 19 minutes

Dedicated to clarinetist Fred Jacobowitz

In 1989, I had the pleasure of visiting with an old friend I met at NTSU in the '70s, Fred Robinson (no relation), when the Air Force Band he composed and arranged for played at Brevard, NC. As a result of this visit, when I returned home to Cleveland NC, I wrote a series of pieces for his musicians. Sadly none were used. When I revisited these scores in 2003 and 2004, I changed them radically and greatly expanded them with many improvements. One of these scores was originally a little five-minute romp for brass quintet. I wrote a new first movement, based on a short exercise from my student years imitating Wagner, and completely re-wrote the second movement, all from June 1 to June 28, 2004. These are now the second and third movements.

The tessitura for the first trumpet was very high, and this part became much more practical and even idiomatic when played on a clarinet. Thus, the idea came to change the instrumentation to clarinet and brass. I composed an entirely new first movement in the fall of 2011 to make the piece more similar to the length of most of my other pieces. I have written two previous works including clarinet with my friend Fred Jacobowitz in mind, and this is the third.

About the cover; the middle photograph is of a Japanese acoustic airplane detector from the 1930's. The bottom image is of the largest denomination of currency ever issued by the United States government.

Bill Robinson

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billrobinsonmusic.com

The Big Note

[6:40]

(♩ = 120)

Allegro grande nota

I. Let's Get Things Rolling

Bill Robinson

Musical score for measures 1-7. The score is for a Clarinet in B \flat , Trumpet in B \flat , Horn in F, Trombone, and Tuba. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4 and back to 3/4. The Clarinet part starts with a *p* dynamic and features a large slur over the first four measures. The Tuba part also starts with a *p* dynamic and has a large slur over the first four measures. The Trumpet and Horn parts enter in measure 5 with a *p* dynamic.

Musical score for measures 8-14. The score is for Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4. The Clarinet part starts with a *mp* dynamic and has a large slur over measures 8-10. The Tuba part starts with a *mp* dynamic and has a large slur over measures 8-10. The Horn and Trombone parts enter in measure 11 with a *mp* dynamic.

Musical score for measures 15-21. The score is for Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4. The Clarinet part starts with a *mf* dynamic and has a large slur over measures 15-17. The Tuba part starts with a *mf* dynamic and has a large slur over measures 15-17. The Horn and Trombone parts enter in measure 18 with a *f* dynamic.

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Musical score for measures 22-28. The score is for five instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 22 starts with a dynamic of *p*. The Clarinet part has a melodic line with a slur. The Trumpet and Horn parts have a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Trombone part has a melodic line with a slur. The Tuba part has a low, sustained note with a slur. The score ends at measure 28 with a final note in the Clarinet part.

Musical score for measures 29-35. The score is for five instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The time signature is 4/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 29 starts with a dynamic of *p*. The Clarinet part has a melodic line with a slur. The Trumpet and Horn parts have a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Trombone part has a melodic line with a slur. The Tuba part has a low, sustained note with a slur. The score ends at measure 35 with a final note in the Clarinet part.

Musical score for measures 36-42. The score is for five instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 36 starts with a dynamic of *mf*. The Clarinet part has a melodic line with a slur. The Trumpet and Horn parts have a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Trombone part has a melodic line with a slur. The Tuba part has a low, sustained note with a slur. The score ends at measure 42 with a final note in the Clarinet part.

The Big Note

40

Cl. *mf* *mp* *p* *f*

Tpt. *mp* *p*

Hrn. *mf* *mp* *p* *f*

Tbn. *mf* *mp* *p* *f*

Tuba 40 *p* *f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 40 through 45. The music is written for five instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The key signature has one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4. Dynamic markings include *mf*, *mp*, *p*, and *f*. The Tuba part starts at measure 40 with a *p* dynamic and features a *f* dynamic in measure 45.

46

Cl. *ff*

Tpt. *f* *ff*

Hrn. *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

Tuba 46 *ff*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 46 through 50. The music continues for the same five instruments. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4. Dynamic markings include *f* and *ff*. The Tuba part starts at measure 46 with a *ff* dynamic.

51

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba 51

Detailed description: This system contains measures 51 through 55. The music continues for the same five instruments. The key signature has two flats (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The Tuba part starts at measure 51.

The Big Note

4

56

Cl. *mp* *p* *f*

Tpt. *mf* *p* *f*

Hrn. *f*

Tbn. *f* *p*

Tuba 56 *f* *p*

61

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

Tuba 61 *f*

68

Cl. *f* *p* *p cresc. p. a p.* (*mf*)

Tpt. *f* *p* *p cresc. p. a p.* (*mf*)

Hrn. *mf* *p* *p cresc. p. a p.* (*mf*)

Tbn.

Tuba 68 *p cresc. p. a p.* (*mf*)

The Big Note

75

Cl. *fp.* *fp.* *fp.* *fp.* *f* *ff* 5

Tpt. *f* *ff*

Hrn. *f* *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

Tuba 75 *f* *ff*

83

Cl. *ff* *mf* *p*

Tpt. *ff* *mf*

Hrn. *ff* *mf* *p*

Tbn. *p*

Tuba 83 *p*

90

Cl. *mp* *mp*

Tpt. *mp*

Hrn. *mp*

Tbn. *mp* *mp*

Tuba 90 *mp*

The Big Note

6

95

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

cresc.

mf

f

ff

mf

f

ff

mf

f

ff

mf

f

ff

f

99

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

105

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

p

113

Cl. *p* *cresc. p. a p.* (*mp*)

Tpt. *mp* *cresc. p. a p.*

Hrn. *p* *cresc. p. a p.* (*mp*)

Tbn. *p* *cresc. p. a p.* (*mp*)

Tuba 113 *cresc.* (*mp*) *mf*

119

Cl. (*mf*) *f* *ff*

Tpt. (*mf*) *f* *ff*

Hrn. (*mf*) *f* *ff*

Tbn. (*mf*) *f* *ff*

Tuba 119 *ff*

124

Cl. 124

Tpt. 124

Hrn. 124

Tbn. 124

Tuba 124

The Big Note

8

129

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

135

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

pp

p

pp

pp

p

141

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

p

p

The Big Note

149 9

Cl.
Tpt.
Hrn.
Tbn.
Tuba

149

Detailed description: This system of music covers measures 149 to 156. It features five staves: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The Clarinet part has a whole note rest in measure 149, followed by a series of half notes with slurs. The Trumpet part plays a melodic line of eighth and quarter notes. The Horn part plays a similar melodic line. The Trombone and Tuba parts play a bass line of half notes with slurs. A page number '9' is in the top right corner.

157

Cl.
Tpt.
Hrn.
Tbn.
Tuba

157

mp
p
mp
p
mp

Detailed description: This system of music covers measures 157 to 164. The Clarinet part has a whole note rest in measure 157, followed by a crescendo hairpin and a dynamic marking of *mp* in measure 164. The Trumpet part plays a melodic line of eighth and quarter notes. The Horn part plays a similar melodic line. The Trombone and Tuba parts play a bass line of half notes with slurs. Dynamic markings *p* and *mp* are present in the Trombone and Tuba parts.

165

Cl.
Tpt.
Hrn.
Tbn.
Tuba

165

mp
ff
ff
mp
ff

Detailed description: This system of music covers measures 165 to 172. The Clarinet part has a whole note rest in measure 165, followed by a melodic line of eighth and quarter notes with a dynamic marking of *mp* in measure 166, and a dynamic marking of *ff* in measure 172. The Trumpet part plays a melodic line of eighth and quarter notes. The Horn part plays a similar melodic line. The Trombone and Tuba parts play a bass line of half notes with slurs. Dynamic markings *mp* and *ff* are present in the Trombone and Tuba parts.

The Big Note

10

171

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

171

ff

ff

This system contains five staves of music for measures 171 through 175. The instruments are Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Clarinet part features a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Trombone and Tuba parts have a more melodic, sustained character. The Horn and Trumpet parts provide harmonic support. Dynamic markings of *ff* (fortissimo) are present in the Horn and Tuba parts.

176

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

176

This system contains five staves of music for measures 176 through 181. The instruments are Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The music is in 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Clarinet part continues with its rhythmic pattern. The Trombone and Tuba parts have a more melodic, sustained character. The Horn and Trumpet parts provide harmonic support.

182

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

182

This system contains five staves of music for measures 182 through 186. The instruments are Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hrn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Clarinet part continues with its rhythmic pattern. The Trombone and Tuba parts have a more melodic, sustained character. The Horn and Trumpet parts provide harmonic support.

The Big Note

186

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

189

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

192

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

legato

The Big Note

12

196

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

196

legato

legato

ff

legato

ff

201

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

201

206

Cl.

Tpt.

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

206

II. More Dolce Please

[5'10"]

13

Chorale $\bullet = 54$

Musical score for the Chorale section, measures 1-6. The score is for five instruments: Clarinet in B \flat , Trumpet in B \flat , Horn in F, Trombone, and Tuba. The tempo is marked $\bullet = 54$. The music is in 4/4 time and begins with a *p* (piano) dynamic. The Clarinet, Trumpet, and Horn parts feature melodic lines with slurs, while the Trombone and Tuba parts provide harmonic support.

Musical score for the *More Dolce Please* section, measures 7-11. The score is for five instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The tempo is marked $\bullet = 62$. The section begins with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking and a *p* (piano) dynamic. The music transitions from 4/4 to 3/4 time. The Clarinet, Trumpet, and Horn parts feature melodic lines with slurs, while the Trombone and Tuba parts provide harmonic support. The dynamic is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) for the latter part of the section.

Musical score for the *More Dolce Please* section, measures 12-16. The score is for five instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The tempo is marked $\bullet = 62$. The music continues in 3/4 time. The Clarinet, Trumpet, and Horn parts feature melodic lines with slurs, while the Trombone and Tuba parts provide harmonic support. The dynamic is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano).

The Big Note

14

Cl. 17

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba 17

Cl. 21

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba 21

Cl. 27

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba 27

mp

32

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

mp

mp²

f

ff

36

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

41

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

The Big Note

16

44

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

48

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

ff

ff

ff

52

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff *p* *mf* *f*

ff *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

ff *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

ff *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

57

Cl. *ff*

Tpt. *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

Tuba 57 *ff*

60

Chorale ♩ = 54

Cl. *p*

Tpt. *p*

Hn. *p*

Tbn. *p*

Tuba 60 *ff* *p*

65

Cl. *rit.*

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba 65

III. Polytonalmodalyodel

(7)

♩ = 98

Polytonalmodalyodel

Clarinet in B \flat

Trumpet in B \flat

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

mp *ff* *ff*

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

10

ff *mf* *mp* *ff* *ff*

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

19

ff *f* *f* *f*

27

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

34

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

41

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

The Big Note

20

47

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

47

52

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

52

57

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

57

62

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

p

69

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

mp

74

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

mf

f

The Big Note

22

78

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

f

83

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

88

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

ff

ff

93

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

p

98

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

mp

mf

p

mf

102

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

ff

The Big Note

24

106

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

This system of music covers measures 106, 107, and 108. The Clarinet (Cl.) and Trumpet (Tpt.) parts feature eighth-note patterns with slurs and accents. The Horn (Hn.) part has a melodic line with slurs. The Trombone (Tbn.) and Tuba parts provide a rhythmic foundation with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The Tuba part includes a measure rest in measure 107.

109

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

This system of music covers measures 109, 110, 111, and 112. The Clarinet (Cl.) part has a melodic line with slurs. The Trumpet (Tpt.) part features a rhythmic pattern with accents. The Horn (Hn.) part has a melodic line with slurs. The Trombone (Tbn.) part has a rhythmic pattern with accents. The Tuba part has a rhythmic pattern with accents. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 4/4 between measures 110 and 111.

113

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

This system of music covers measures 113, 114, 115, and 116. The Clarinet (Cl.) part has a melodic line with slurs. The Trumpet (Tpt.) part features a rhythmic pattern with accents. The Horn (Hn.) part has a rhythmic pattern with accents. The Trombone (Tbn.) part has a rhythmic pattern with accents. The Tuba part has a rhythmic pattern with accents. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 between measures 115 and 116.

117

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

121

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff *pp*

pp

128

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

p *mp*

p *mp*

p *mp*

The Big Note

26

134

Cl. *mf* *f*

Tpt. *mf* *f*

Hn.

Tbn. *mf* *f*

Tuba 134 *f*

140

Cl. *p*

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn. *p*

Tuba 140 *p*

$\bullet = 92$
A little slower

144

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba 144

Tempo I

147

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

150

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

pp

pp

pp

pp

ff

ff

ff

153

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

mp

mp

mp

mp

f

f

f

mf

mf

mf

The Big Note

28

159

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

159

f *ff*

f *ff*

f *ff*

f *ff*

164

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

164

170

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

170

176

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

182

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

187

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

The Big Note

30

193

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

200

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

206

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

211

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

This system of music covers measures 211 to 216. It features five staves: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The music is in 4/4 time and begins with a key signature of two flats. Measures 211-212 show rhythmic patterns in the woodwinds and brass. Measure 213 contains a key signature change to one flat. Measures 214-216 feature a prominent melodic line in the Clarinet and Trumpet, with the Horn playing a steady eighth-note accompaniment and the Trombone and Tuba providing harmonic support.

217

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

This system of music covers measures 217 to 220. It features five staves: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The music is in 4/4 time and begins with a key signature of one flat. Measures 217-218 show a melodic line in the Clarinet and Trumpet. Measures 219-220 feature a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the Horn and Trombone, with the Tuba providing harmonic support.

221

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

This system of music covers measures 221 to 224. It features five staves: Clarinet (Cl.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba. The music is in 4/4 time and begins with a key signature of one flat. Measures 221-222 show a melodic line in the Clarinet and Trumpet. Measures 223-224 feature a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the Horn and Trombone, with the Tuba providing harmonic support.

Andante $\bullet = 52$ The Big Note

225

Cl. *ff* \rightarrow *pp* 3

Tpt.

Hn. *pp*

Tbn. *pp*

225

Tuba *pp*

$\bullet = 98$ Tempo I

231

Cl. *pp*

Tpt. *pp*

Hn.

Tbn.

231

Tuba *pp*

237

Cl.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

237

Tuba