

Garden of the Gods

for solo trombone and trombone choir

James M. David (2012)

**Garden of the Gods
for solo trombone and trombone choir**

commissioned by Dr. Bradley Palmer and the Columbus State University Trombone Choir

dedicated to Joseph Alessi, principal trombone, New York Philharmonic

Duration:

- I. Cathedral Spires – ca. 4'10"
- II. The Three Graces – ca. 3'45"

Total: ca. 8 minutes

Instrumentation:

Solo Tenor Trombone

4 Tenor Trombones
2 Bass Trombones

Program Notes:

Of all the beautiful places in Colorado, the one to which I most often return is the famous Garden of the Gods. While certainly not the most massive or dramatic vista in the state, it instead holds an elusive character that is intimate, mischievous, and foreboding all at once. The bizarre rock formations seem to take on their own distinct personalities, and this brief concerto for trombone and trombone choir depicts two of the most well known structures. The "Cathedral Spires" are an extraordinarily delicate group of sandstone columns rising toward the mountains in the distance. The first movement depicts them at dawn, just as the sun emerges from behind Pike's Peak. "The Three Graces" are large angular shapes that are grouped together near the center of the park. During the day, they are surrounded by the hustle and bustle of visitors and almost seem to be having a busy conversation amongst themselves. The driving allegro of the second movement displays the vibrancy and energy of the park, particularly the daring cyclists racing up and down steep inclines. This piece is composed for and dedicated to Joe Alessi of the New York Philharmonic, and was commissioned by Dr. Brad Palmer and the Columbus State University Trombone Choir.

-notes by the composer
Fort Collins, Colorado
September 2012

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I. Cathedral Spires

Steady, Lyrical (♩ = 64)

Musical score for Solo Trombone and Trombone choir. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 64 beats per minute. The Solo Trombone part begins with a *pp* dynamic and *senza vib.* instruction, transitioning to *mf* *con vib.* later. The Trombone choir (Trombone 1-4 and Bass Trombone 1-2) starts with *pp* dynamics and includes instructions for "harmon mute (stem in)" and "cup mute". The score features various articulations such as slurs, accents, and triplets.

Musical score for Solo Trombone and Trombone choir, starting at measure 9. The Solo Trombone part features a complex melodic line with slurs, accents, and triplets. The Trombone choir (Trombone 1-4 and Bass Trombone 1-2) provides harmonic support with various articulations, including "open" instructions for the lower parts.

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26

slide gliss.-----

Solo

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

*mp*³

*mf*³

*p*⁶

*p*³

p

30

Solo

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

*mf*³

*mf*³

mf

mf

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33

Solo *f*

Tbn. 1 *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf*

Tbn. 3 *f*

Tbn. 4 *f*

B. Tbn. 1 *f*

B. Tbn. 2 *f*

35

Solo *f*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

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36

Solo *fff* slide gliss.-----

Tbn. 1 *fffz*

Tbn. 2 *fffz*

Tbn. 3 *fffz*

Tbn. 4 *fffz*

B. Tbn. 1 *fffz*

B. Tbn. 2 *fffz*

40 Very slow, held back (♩ = 40)

Solo *pp* *doclissimo, con vib.*

Tbn. 1 *pp* harmon mute (stem in)

Tbn. 2 *pp* harmon mute (stem in)

Tbn. 3 *pp*

Tbn. 4 *pp*

B. Tbn. 1 *pp*

B. Tbn. 2 *pp*

Garden of the Gods - p. 6

This musical score page, titled "Garden of the Gods - p. 6", features a solo part and a tuba ensemble. The solo part is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It begins with a melodic line starting on a G4, moving through A4, B4, and C5, with a fermata over the final note. The tuba ensemble consists of seven parts: Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3, Tbn. 4, B. Tbn. 1, and B. Tbn. 2. The first four tuba parts are in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp and a 6/8 time signature. The two baritone tuba parts are in bass clef with a key signature of one flat and a 6/8 time signature. The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines. The first measure is in 6/8 time, the second and third are in 3/4 time, and the fourth is in 4/4 time. The tuba parts play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth and quarter notes, often with slurs and ties. The baritone tuba parts play a similar rhythmic pattern, often with slurs and ties. The score concludes with a double bar line at the end of the fourth measure.

II. The Three Graces

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Rhythmic (♩ = 126)

st. mute

Musical score for Trombone section, measures 1-5. The score includes parts for Solo Trombone, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, Trombone 4, Bass Trombone 1, and Bass Trombone 2. The Solo Trombone part features a melodic line starting in measure 4 with dynamics *mf* and *sf*. Trombone 1 and 2 play rhythmic patterns with dynamics *p* and *mp*. Trombone 3 and 4 play accented notes with dynamic *f*. Bass Trombone 1 and 2 play accented notes with dynamic *f*. Performance instructions include 'open' and 'st. mute'.

Musical score for Trombone section, measures 6-10. The Solo part continues with a complex melodic line marked *f*. Trombone 1 and 2 play rhythmic patterns. Trombone 3 and 4 play accented notes with dynamic *f*. Bass Trombone 1 and 2 play accented notes with dynamic *f*. Performance instructions include 'open' and 'st. mute'.

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11

Solo

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

16

17 open

Solo

fp < *sf* *fp* < *sf* *f* < *sf*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

mp

mp

mp

mp

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22

Solo

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

mp

mp

mp

mp

27

Solo

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

mf

sf

Garden of the Gods - p. 10

33

Solo

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

38

Solo

mf cantabile

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

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46

Solo

49

f

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

55

Solo

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Garden of the Gods - p. 12

61

Solo *f* *sotto voce* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2 *f*

Tbn. 3 *f*

Tbn. 4 *f*

B. Tbn. 1 *f*

B. Tbn. 2 *f*

Solo slide gliss. --- 73

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

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75 78

Solo *mf*

Tbn. 1 *p*

Tbn. 2 *p*

Tbn. 3 *f*

Tbn. 4 *f*

B. Tbn. 1 *f*

B. Tbn. 2 *f*

80 84

Solo *sf* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mp* *f*

Tbn. 2 *mp* *f*

Tbn. 3 *fmp* *f*

Tbn. 4 *f* *f*

B. Tbn. 1 *f* *f*

B. Tbn. 2 *f* *f*