Antique Violences

Concerto for Trumpet

(2017)

John Mackey

i. The blooded lines
ii. Secrets' teeth
iii. Sorrow is a blade
iv. The curtain calls

Commissioned by
Michigan State University

with generous funding from Howard J. Gourwitz & Merritt Lutz

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Instrumentation

Piccolo
3 Flutes (flutes 1 & 2 double on piccolo)
2 Oboes
2 Bassoons
Contrabassoon

Eb Clarinet
3 Bb Clarinets
2 Bass Clarinets
Contrabass Clarinet (Bb)

3 Trumpets in C
4 French Horns
2 Tenor Trombones
Bass Trombone
Tuba (2 if available)

Double Bass (C extension needed)
Piano, doubling on Harpsichord
Harp

6 Percussionists

Movement 1 (6 players required):
1: Xylophone & crash cymbals
2: Small bass drum
3: Field drum
4: Assorted cymbals (sus. crash, china, EFX, splash)
5: Snare drum & tambourine
6: Large bass drum (this is the only part that does not change through the movements)

Movements 2-3 (5 players required):
1: Vibraphone & Marimba
2: 4 tom-toms & snare drum
3: Tam-Tam, 4 cymbals (sus. crash, china, EFX, splash), 2 pitched gongs
4: Tambourine, marimba, crash cymbals, sus. cymbal
5: Large bass drum (same player as other movements)

Movement 4 (6 players required):
1: Crash cymbals, vibraphone, xylophone, whip, pitched gongs
2: Marimba, whip, crash cymbals
3: Drums (4 tom-toms, plus small bass drum)
4: Assorted cymbals (hi-hat, sus. crash, china, EFX, splash)
5: Snare drum, tambourine
6: Large bass drum (same player as other movements)

Complete percussion inventory *

Xylophone
Marimba
Vibraphone with motor
Crash cymbals
Small bass drum (22x12 or 24x12)
Field drum
Suspended crash cymbal
China cymbal
EFX (or comparable) cymbal
Splash cymbal
Hi-hat
Snare drum
Tambourine
Large bass drum
4 tom-toms (large to small)
Tam-tam
2 pitched gongs, D3 & D4
Whip/slapstick

* note that duplicates may be required depending on setup

Additional notes

* 1 player per part is preferred throughout, with the exception of tuba, which has frequent divisi sections, so two tubas are preferred. If only one tuba is available, the lower note is preferred when split.

* Bassoon 2 and Bass Clarinet 2 are the lower of the parts, and as such, often cover the root of the chord. If only 1 bass clarinet is available, preference should be given to Bass Clarinet 2.
Program Note

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The title comes from a line in Rickey Laurentiis’ “Writing an Elegy,” and reminds us that where there are humans, there is violence—so it is, so it has ever been. The concerto notes that, curiously, the trumpet and its cousins always call the bloody tune.

The structure of our social world is born, and reborn, in the mass violence of war; borders are made of blood. The first movement thus recalls wars ancient and modern, noble and notorious. Tracing the spark of international conflagration to the fires of the drawing room, the second movement captures the intimate violence we do on a smaller scale, with words as weapons and armored smiles. Because the aftermath of violence wounds in another way, the third movement pauses in the sharp dark chasm of mourning. But grief always turns to anger, and the cycle continues. So the fourth movement revisits the materials of the other three, but at a distance, inviting us to reflect on violence’s status as our favorite entertainment.

Program note by A.E. Jaques. Please credit when reproducing program note.

"Antique Violences" was commissioned by Michigan State University and the American Bandmasters Association. The premiere performances took place on March 16, 2017, with the Michigan State University Wind Symphony, conducted by Kevin Sedatole, with Justin Emerich, solo trumpet; and April 11, 2017, with the Dallas Winds, conducted by Jerry Junkin, with Chris Martin, solo trumpet.
II. Secrets' teeth

Adagio (circa \( \text{\textbf{q=60}} \))
Pos.
Fl. 1
Fl. 2-3
Obo.
Bsn.
C. Bn.
E. Cl.
Clar. 1
Clar. 2-3
Bn. Cl.
Tbn. 1-2
Pno. Tpt.
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2-3
Horn 1-2
Horn 3-4
Tbn. 1-2
Bass Tbn.
Tuba
DB
Hpachet
Hp.
Msb.
Toms
Cymb & Tam
Dr.
poco a poco rit.

Horn 1-2
Clar. 2-3
Hpschd.
Tpt. 2-3
Cb. Cl.
Clar. 1
Tamb.
Bs. Cl.
C. Bn.
Tuba
Picc.
Bsn.
Fl. 1
Ob.
Hp.
DB
Fl.
Hpchel.
Hp.
Mtb.
Tuba
Cymb & Tam
Tamb.
SD
III. Sorrow is a blade
IV. The curtain calls

Piccolo 1
Piccolo 2
Flute 1
Flute 2
2 Oboes
2 Bassoons
Contrabassoon
Clarinet in E-
B♭ Clarinet 1
B♭ Clarinet 2-3
2 Bass Clarinets
Contrabass Clarinets
Solo Trumpet
C Trumpet 1
C Trumpet 2-3
Horn 1-2
Horn 3-4
Trombone 1-2
Bass Tbn.
Tuba
Double Bass
Harpsichord
Crash Cymbals
Marimba
Drums
Cymbals
Snare Drum
Large Bass Drum

\( \text{\textit{q}} = 120 \)