

Austin Ali

A COSMIC PERSPECTIVE



For Brass Quintet and Projection

Full Score



Ninth
Planet
Editions

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(2025)

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Version 25.4.2

PROGRAM NOTES

When describing the reason why the United States government created the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, famed science communicator and astrophysicist Dr. Neil DeGrasse Tyson cited the Apollo missions to the moon as the primary impetus. On the subject, Dr. Tyson said, *“a cosmic perspective can descend on you such that your survival and the survival of others are aligned in a way that maybe you’re going to do something about it.”*

The musical composition *A Cosmic Perspective* dives into the PhD research of Katie Osborn (UCLA Environmental Engineering), unraveling reams of data from NASA's Sentinel satellites studying the bar-built estuaries of the California coast into a work for brass quintet and film projection. Just as estuaries join rivers and oceans, *A Cosmic Perspective* attempts to demonstrate humanity's inarguable effect on our environment and urges our scientists, artists, and citizens to collaborate—to take action with the unifying perspective from above of our shared blue gem.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

MUTE EFFECTS:

air sound (no pitch)
plunger mute

The notation shows a three-measure phrase on a grand staff. The first measure has a diamond-shaped plunger mute symbol on the staff, with a '+' sign above it, and is marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second measure has a diamond-shaped plunger mute symbol on the staff, with a '0' sign above it, and is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The third measure has a diamond-shaped plunger mute symbol on the staff, with a '+' sign above it, and is marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The notes are represented by curved lines connecting the diamond symbols.

Trumpets, horn, and trombone: use the hand with the plunger mute to simulate the sound of crashing waves with the plunger gradually moving from closed (+) to open (o) and back to closed (+).

Tuba: simulate the muted effect with a half-valve. No mute required!

open and close stem with hand
harmon mute stem in



maintain pitch
vary rhythm ad. lib.

Trumpets, horn, and trombone: use the palm of the hand to create pulsating harmonic wave effects by covering and uncovering the harmon mute stem. These figures are aleatoric and serve as accompaniment.

ALTERNATE FINGERINGS AND VALVE COMBINATIONS:

3

Trumpets: perform the following arpeggios using only the fingerings of 3 and 0. The same applies to passages notated with 23 and 0.

T
open



Trombone: perform the following passage with a combination of first position and F-trigger to slur all the notes in the figure as notated.

(transposed)

For Good Time Brass, Commissioned by Climate Notes

A COSMIC PERSPECTIVE

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Slowly ♩ = 60

air sound (no pitch)
plunger mute

Trumpet in B♭ 1

Trumpet in B♭ 2

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

The musical score is written for five brass instruments: Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2, Horn in F, Trombone, and Tuba. The key signature is one flat (B♭), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Slowly' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 60. The music consists of a single melodic line with a crescendo and decrescendo, marked with dynamics *p*, *f*, and *p*. The score includes various performance instructions such as 'air sound (no pitch)' and 'plunger mute'. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines, and the instruments are arranged in a grand staff format.

A

8

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

ff poss. *p*

f > *p*

open

p *mf* *p*

p *f* > *p*

air sound (no pitch)
half-valve

p *ff* poss.

15

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p *ff* poss. *p*

p *ff* poss. *p*

air sound (no pitch)
plunger mute

mf *p*

p *f* > *p*

p *ff* poss. *p*

p *ff* poss. *p*

p *ff* poss. *p*

B

Moving ♪ = 66

maintain pitch
vary rhythm ad. lib.

pp

maintain pitch
vary rhythm ad. lib.

pp

 $\mathbb{f}f_{poss.}$

p

maintain pitch
vary rhythm ad. lib.

pp

 $\mathcal{F}_{\text{poss.}}$

p

24

p

p warm

mf

 $\triangleright$

p cantabile

 m ≥ 1

***p** warm*

 m_f

pp

***p** cantabile*

 m_j $\geq$

31

Tpt. in Bb 1

Tpt. in Bb 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf

p

31

32

33

34

34

C

Tpt. in Bb 1

mf *dolciss. e cant.*

Tpt. in Bb 2

mf *dolciss. e cant.*

Hn. in F

open and close stem with hand
harmon mute stem in

p

3 6

Tbn.

open and close stem with hand
harmon mute stem in

mf *p*

sim.

Tba

mf *p*

36

Tpt. in B $\flat$ 1

Tpt. in B $\flat$ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

maintain pitch
vary rhythm ad. lib.

mf $\rightarrow$ *p*

42

Tpt. in B $\flat$ 1

Tpt. in B $\flat$ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

Picc. Tpt. in B $\flat$

open

mf *dolciss. e cant.*

n

n

open

mf *dolciss. e cant.*

p $\rightarrow$ *pp*

46

Picc. Tpt. in B $\flat$

Tpt. in B $\flat$ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf *p*

Measures 46-48. Picc. Tpt. in B $\flat$ plays a long note with a crescendo. Tpt. in B $\flat$ 2 is silent. Hn. in F plays a triplet of eighth notes. Tbn. plays a half note. Tba plays a half note. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*.

49

Picc. Tpt. in B $\flat$

Tpt. in B $\flat$ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p

open

p *dolciss. e cant.*

Measures 49-51. Picc. Tpt. in B $\flat$ plays a long note with a crescendo. Tpt. in B $\flat$ 2 plays a long note with a crescendo. Hn. in F plays a triplet of eighth notes. Tbn. plays a half note. Tba plays a half note. Dynamics: *p*, *open*, *p* *dolciss. e cant.*.

52

Picc. Tpt. in Bb

Tpt. in Bb 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

To Flug.

n

pp

SCREENTONFORMA

56

E Faster ♩ = 72

Picc. Tpt. in Bb

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

Flug. open

open

lead

pp

f

mf bold

mf bold

3 5

3 5 6

SCREENTONFORMA

F

[illegible]

63

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

pp

p

f

f

f

65

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

pp

pp

f

p

p

p

68

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

23 6

6 23 6

p

f

f

f

70

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

(sim.)

(sim.)

p

p

p

G

71

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf *dolciss. e cant.*

p *mf* *p*

p *mf* *p*

mf *dolciss. e cant.*

mf *dolciss. e cant.*

73

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

74

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

fp *fp*

fp

75

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p *p*

f

ffp

H

76

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

f

più f

più f

più f

78

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

pp

0 23 (sim.)

pp

plunger mute

p



1 13 (sim.)

To Picc. Tpt. in B $\flat$

80

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

plunger mute

half-valve

p

ff poss.

p

p

p

ff poss.

p

ff poss.

p

83

Picc. Tpt. in B $\flat$

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf

f

mf

f

f

open

T open

ord. *f*

f

f

f

J With Energy ♪ = 76

88 Flug. 1 *ff* *f* *ff* *f*

Flug. 2 *ff* *f sempre*

Hn. in F *ff* *f sempre*

Tbn. *ff* *f sempre*

Tba *ff* *f sempre*

90

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

sfz

fp

To Tpt. in B $\flat$

f

mf sotto voce

open

f molto cantabile

(*f*)

(*f*)

(*f*)

94

Flug. 1

Tpt. in B $\flat$ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

f

f

f

K Racing Forward ♪ = 144

[illegible]

107

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

sfz

fp

4

112

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

sfz

p

f

p

f

L (2+2+3)

116

straight mute

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

sfz

f

sfz

f

f

ff

sfz

sfz

sfz

119

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

sfz

sfz

fp

fp

122

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

f

f

f

fp

ff

fp

ff

126

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf

mf

sfz

f

129

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p

p

p

straight mute

p

p

133

M

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

pp

p

open

f *p* *f*

open

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

137

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf

f

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

141

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

solo

p

p

p

144

Tpt. in B♭ 1

p

f

solo

Tpt. in B♭ 2

mf

p

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

Measures 144-146. Tpt. in B♭ 1 has a solo in measure 145. Tpt. in B♭ 2 has a melodic line with a crescendo. Hn. in F and Tbn. have rhythmic patterns. Tba has a single note in measure 145.

147

Tpt. in B♭ 1

mf > *p*

Tpt. in B♭ 2

mf > *p*

Hn. in F

mf *p*

Tbn.

mf *p*

Tba

mf *p*

N

Measures 147-150. Measures 147-149 are in 4/4 time, and measure 150 is in 3/8 time. All instruments have dynamic markings and articulation. A rehearsal mark 'N' is at the start of measure 150.

151

Tpt. in B♭ 1

mf *p* *f*

Tpt. in B♭ 2

mf *p* *f*

Hn. in F

ff sempre *sfz* *rip!*

Tbn.

ff sempre *sfz*

Tba

f

157

Tpt. in B♭ 1

ff

Tpt. in B♭ 2

ff

Hn. in F

sfz

Tbn.

sfz

Tba

f

O **Majestic** ♩ = 66
To Flug.

161

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p

6

23

6

23

6

162

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

(sim.)

(sim.)

163

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

ff majestic

p *mf* *p*

ff majestic

ff majestic

165

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf *f* *p* *f*

mf *f* *p* *f*

167

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p

ff

ff

ff

168

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p

f

p

p

P

171

Flug. 1

Flug. 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

ff *ffp* *intense* *ff* *pp*

ff *pp* *ff* *intense*

ff *ff*

Slower than before ♩ = 56

177

Tpt. in Bb 1

Tpt. in Bb 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

Q

Tpt. in Bb
harmon mute stem in

Tpt. in Bb
harmon mute stem in

harmon mute stem in

harmon mute stem in

half-valve

ord.

p

pp

p

p

f

p

p

181

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

mf

p

R

184

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

rit. Resolved ♩ = 52

f

f dolciss.

f

f

f

187

Tpt. in B♭ 1

Tpt. in B♭ 2

Hn. in F

Tbn.

Tba

p

pp

SCORENOTES PERFECT