
James MATHESON

Pull

for Alto Saxophone and Piano

*Premiered March 29, 1995 by
Samuel Lorber, alto saxophone, and Ossie Borosh, piano
New England Conservatory of Music, Boston*

PULL – light, hot, and virtuosic – is a brief but intense struggle between two groups of musical material. Pungent, pounding chords open the work, followed by fleet, cascading arpeggiated figures which enter about a minute later. These blocks, and a few structurally related offspring, are repeated and varied, but retain their essential characteristics throughout the work. They tug at each other, try to influence each other, vie for preeminence. But in the end neither dominates and there is no resolution of the internal conflict. There is only the push and pull of contrary, though complimentary, forces.

– James Matheson

Duration: c. 6'

Commissioned by and dedicated to Samuel Lorber

Pull

for E \flat Alto Saxophone and Piano

JAMES MATHESON (1995)

Forcefully (♩ = 132)

E \flat Alto Saxophone

Piano

4

9

senza vib.

ppp

ff

ff

p

pp sub.

f

pp

p

13

Musical score for measures 13-18. The piece is in 3/8 time. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and accents, while the left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *pp* and *p*.

19

Musical score for measures 19-24. The piece is in 7/8 time. The right hand has a complex melodic line with slurs and accents, and dynamic markings of *pp*, *ff*, and *pp*. The left hand has a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings of *ff*, *pp*, *ff*, *pp*, and *pp*.

25

Musical score for measures 25-30. The piece is in 7/8 time. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and accents, and dynamic markings of *ff*, *pp*, *ppp*, *ff*, and *p*. The left hand has a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings of *ff*, *fff*, *ff*, and *p sub.*

31

Musical score for measures 31-36. The piece is in 4/4 time. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and accents, and a dynamic marking of *ff*. The left hand has a rhythmic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *fff*.

39

39

p *sffp* *f* *sffp* *f*

Measures 39-43. Treble clef. Key signature: one flat. Time signatures: 8/8, 7/8, 8/8, 4/4, 8/8. Dynamics: *p*, *sffp*, *f*, *sffp*, *f*. Includes slurs and accents.

44

44

f *ff* *mp* *p sub.*

Measures 44-48. Treble clef. Key signature: one flat. Time signatures: 7/8, 7/8, 4/4, 3/8, 2/4, 4/4. Dynamics: *f*, *ff*, *mp*, *p sub.*. Includes slurs and accents.

49

49

p *p sub.* *ff* *f* *ff*

Measures 49-53. Treble clef. Key signature: one flat. Time signatures: 4/4, 6/4, 4/4, 4/4, 4/4. Dynamics: *p*, *p sub.*, *ff*, *f*, *ff*. Includes slurs and accents.

54

54

mp *sffz*

Measures 54-58. Treble clef. Key signature: one flat. Time signatures: 4/4, 4/4, 4/4, 4/4, 7/8. Dynamics: *mp*, *sffz*. Includes slurs and accents.

Allegro (♩ = 160 or faster)

60

f

65

70

76

p *ffz*
Sua.....

* Notes in parentheses may be omitted, if necessary, for a quick breath.