

commissioned by Dr. Wally Wallace, Saxophone

like a blossom unfolding

for Alto Saxophone and Piano

2015

Ash Stemke

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Performance Notes

Dynamics

When the piano music uses cross-staff beaming notation, the dynamic markings for the piano are located underneath the lower staff. These markings apply to both hands.

Articulations and Ornaments

A trill *without* an accidental (trill) indicates a trill from the written note to the pitch a step above *within the key signature*. Trills *with* accidentals (trill^\flat or trill^\sharp) are used when the upper note of the trill is not in the key signature.

The tenuto line (tenuto) indicates extra "weight" on a note - think *pesante*, not necessarily *accent*.

Approximate Performance Time

8:00

Program Note

In Schenkerian theory, "unfolding" is a technique of melodic prolongation where a simple voice-leading pattern is extended over a longer period of time. This stretching of small materials into larger, more complex structures reminds me of how a blossoming flower opens itself up to the sun. I am often mesmerized by time-lapse videos of these flowers' movements, and I would like to imagine that *like a blossom unfolding* is a musical representation of this process, beginning introspectively but unfolding over time to reveal hidden beauty. Additionally, several melodic fragments are direct quotes from actual Schenkerian graphs. *like a blossom unfolding* was commissioned by and written for Dr. Wally Wallace, alto saxophone.

Transposed Score

commissioned by Dr. Wally Wallace, Saxophone

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Pensive $\text{♩} = 108$

Alto Sax
in Eb

Musical notation for the first system, measures 1-4. The Alto Saxophone part (treble clef, key signature of one sharp) begins with a whole rest in measure 1, followed by a half note G4 in measure 2, and a melodic phrase in measures 3 and 4. Dynamics range from *p* to *mp*. The Piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs, key signature of two flats) features a steady eighth-note accompaniment starting in measure 2. Dynamics range from *p* to *mp*. Performance markings include "cantabile" and "sempre legato". A "Red." marking is present at the end of the system.

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

Musical notation for the second system, measures 5-8. The Alto Saxophone part continues with a melodic line, including a triplet in measure 7. Dynamics range from *pp* to *mp*. The Piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note accompaniment, including a triplet in measure 7. Dynamics range from *pp* to *mp*. Performance markings include "Red." and asterisks.

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

Musical notation for the third system, measures 9-12. The Alto Saxophone part features a melodic line with a circled "II" marking above measure 10. Dynamics range from *mp* to *p*. The Piano accompaniment includes triplet markings in measures 10 and 11. Dynamics range from *p* to *mp*. Performance markings include "Red." and asterisks.

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

12

mp *pp* *mp*

(Red.) * Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

16

mf *mp*

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

19

p mp *p*

mf *p*

poco rit. ----- a tempo

22

Red. * Red. * Red.

E♭ A. S. 23 *mp* *pp*

Pno. 23

(Red.) * Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. 26 *mp*

Pno. 26 *pp* *p*

(Red.) * Red. *

E♭ A. S. 29 *pp* *pp* (30)

Pno. 29 *pp*

(Red.) * Red. *

32

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

pp *mp*

mp

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.*

35

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

mf *p* *mf*

mf warm

(*Red.*) * *Red.* * *Red.* *

38

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

p

p

Red. * *Red.* *

40

poco rit. a tempo

42

E♭ A. S.

mp *mf*

Pno.

mp *mf*

Red. * Red. *

46

E♭ A. S.

f *p* *mf*

Pno.

f

Red. * Red. *

48

50

E♭ A. S.

f

Pno.

mf

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. 53

Pno. 53

mf

mf

(Red.) * Red. *

E♭ A. S. 56

Pno. 56

f

f

poco rit.-----

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. 58

Pno. 58

ff *p*

ff *mf*

Red. *

61

Pno.

f *mf*

Red. * *Red.* *

65

Pno.

rit. a tempo dolce

p

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

68

Pno.

p *p*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

71

Pno.

p *p*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

E♭ A. S.

74

p dolce

3

5

Pno.

74

3

3

3

3

Red.

*

Red.

*

Red.

*

E♭ A. S.

77

cresc.

5

3

Pno.

77

cresc.

3

3

3

Red.

*

Red.

*

Red.

*

E♭ A. S.

80

f

p

Pno.

80

f

p

3

3

3

3

Red.

*

Red.

*

84

E♭ A. S.

84

Pno.

p *f*

5 3 3

Red. * Red. * Red. *

87

E♭ A. S.

87

Pno.

f *sf*

5 3 3

Red. * Red. *

90

E♭ A. S.

90

Pno.

f *f*

3 3 3 3

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S.

92

6 6

cresc.

sf sf ff

3 3

Pno.

92

3 3

cresc.

sf sf ff

3 3

Red. *

E♭ A. S.

95

sempre ff

dim.

Pno.

sempre ff

3 3 3 3

Red. *

E♭ A. S.

99

(dim.)

p

Pno.

99

(dim.)

p

3 3 3 3

Red. *

rit.----- (105) **Faster** ♩ = 128

E♭ A. S. 103

Pno. 103

f *tr*

f

Red. * *Red.* *

Tempo I ♩ = 108

E♭ A. S. 107

Pno. 107

tr

p *p* *mf*

Red. * *Red.* *

Faster ♩ = 128 (113) Tempo I ♩ = 108

E♭ A. S. 111

Pno. 111

f *p*

Red. * *Red.* *

114 poco rit. ----- a tempo

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

pp cantabile *mp*

(Red.) * Red. *

117

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

pp

Red. * Red. *

120

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

pp *mp*

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. I34

mf

Pno. *mf*

(Red.) * Red. *

E♭ A. S. I37

f *p* *mf*

(138)

Pno. *f*

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. I40

f

Pno. *mf* *f*

Red. * Red.

E♭ A. S. I43

Pno. I43

(Red.) * Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. I46

Pno. I46

mf *f* rit.-----

mf *f*

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. (I48) a tempo

Pno. I48

ff *ff*

Red. *

E♭ A. S.

150

Pno.

Red. *

E♭ A. S.

152

Pno.

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S.

155

Pno.

rit.-----

ff

p

Red. *

158 a tempo (159)

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

pp

pp

Red. * Red. * Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

cresc.

cresc.

Red. * Red. * Red. *

165 (167)

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

f fff

fff

Red. * Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. I69 *f* warm *p* *mf* *tr*

Pno. I69 *f* warm *ff* *f*

Red. * Red. * Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. I73 *f* rit. *tr* 175 a tempo *fff*

Pno. I73 *ff* *fff* *fff*

Red. * Red. *

E♭ A. S. I76 *mf* *fff* *mf* *mp* *tr*

Pno. I76 *mf* *fff* *mf* *mp*

Red. * Red. * Red. *

180

tr

p

rit.-----

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

p

3 3 3 3 3

3 3 5

Red.

*

184

a tempo

rit.-----

E♭ A. S.

Pno.

pp

mf

3 3

Red.

*