

Program notes by composer

I am learning how much color and rich sound can come out of small brass chamber groups. When the idea for the suite first hit me it was for full brass band – but I couldn't achieve some of the intimate moments I wanted unless I began paring down the number of instruments – and finally a quintet.

Carnaval Suite as the name implies is an impression of the moods and atmosphere during a festive time. It is in three movements.

First the dancers who burst on the scene twirling and skipping through the crowd. On an occasion or two they break into slow insinuating solos and duets. But the excitement and rhythms of the night take over again and they soon are again dancing happily through the crowds.

Next there are a pair of singers performing an unaccompanied duet for their inamorata. They are joined by instruments and other singers. There are some solos and responses from other singers drawn by the earnest expression of the duo. Soon all join together singing happily about the love that fills the air.

Finally the party begins in earnest as crowds spill on the streets, laughing, singing, loving and laughing. We do catch a glimpse in a soft lit corner where a lover sings passionately of his love. But again – the crush of the people, the joyous spirit of the festival break through and they are swept into the celebrating crowd.

I. Los Bailarines (The Dancers) for Brass Quintet

For Brass Quintet

Trumpet in Bb-1

Trumpet in Bb-2

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

Allegro 170

A

[illegible]

B

B-Tpt. 1

B-Tpt. 2

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

This musical score segment covers measures 10 through 14 of the piece. It features five staves: B-Tpt. 1, B-Tpt. 2, Horns, Trombones, and Tuba. The key signature is two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor), and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 10-11 show the brass instruments playing a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, starting with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. Measures 12-14 show the brass instruments playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with a forte (f) dynamic indicated. The Tuba part in measure 14 includes a triplet of eighth notes.

II. Los Cantantes (The Singers)

Allegro (♩ = 90)

Trumpet in Bb 1

Trumpet in Bb 2

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

B-Tpt. 1

B-Tpt. 2

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

B-Tpt. 1

B-Tpt. 2

Hrn.

Tbn.

Tuba

III. La Fiesta (The Celebration)

Trumpet in B♭ 1 *♩ = 200*

Trumpet in B♭ 2

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hr.

Tbn.

Tuba

A

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hr.

Tbn.

Tuba