



# Suite Nostalgique

three short pieces for  
TRUMPET and PIANO

JAMES M. STEPHENSON



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## Suite Nostalgique (2012)

for trumpet and piano

duration: 10'

*Commissioned by Marsha Caron for her husband, Dennis, in honor of their 42nd wedding anniversary.*

*The Suite Nostalgique was commissioned by Marsha Caron in honor of her 42nd wedding anniversary as a gift to her husband, Dennis. Marsha and Dennis have long been associated with Charlie Schlueter Foundation, which has supported my music for quite some time. Charlie was my college trumpet professor; therefore, it is my pleasure to be a part of this special gift for two very special people!*

When celebrating an anniversary of any sort, it is normal to reflect upon where we have come from, and where we are now. With "Suite Nostalgique" and with Marsha's permission, I decided to add piano accompaniments to three existing etudes (from "Daytudes Vol. I") which already hearkened upon times gone by, and bore fertile ground for musical nostalgia.

The three movements are: Bragtime, A Minor Reminder, Waa a Ride!

The original notes for each movement, taken from the Daytudes volume, are as follows:

### **Bragtime:**

Well, the New Orleans Saints won the Super Bowl on Feb. 7, 2010. I'm not a fan (I root for the Bears), but it's hard not to pick them as the sentimental favorite after all that city has been through since Hurricane Katrina. I think the team, and its fans, have the right to brag - for a little while!! Therefore, most of you will notice that the opening 8 bars of this "Brag-Time" are based on "When the Saints Go Marching In".

After that, I digress a little bit, even adding a hint of Stravinsky, before returning back to the opening motif. The tempo on this one can almost be anything and still work - from a slow drag up to an up tempo technical display - either way should be fun. ENJOY THE PARTY!

### **A Minor Reminder:**

This etude is the first of the quest I imposed on myself during either what will later be revealed as a grand idea, or a momentary lapse in judgment!

A little hesitant to begin the task, I decided to take inspiration from a friend of mine, Jeff Work, who is a huge fan of old cornet solos - and write one in a more conservative, old-fashioned romantic style. Jeff is principal trumpet of the Oregon Symphony, and is also responsible for my first trumpet concerto, which was written for and premiered by him in 2003.

It is my goal to explore all of the keys in this set of 28 etudes - leaving 4 extra days for whatever I want! - therefore I figured that beginning with A minor would also prove to be a good starting point. Though I have made many dynamic markings, I would encourage the player to add as much personality as possible, even beyond what I've notated. This is truly a romantic etude (chronologically speaking), and no expressive stone should be left unturned!

### **What a Ride!:**

So how does a composer wrap up a month-long quest of new etudes composed every day? For me, as with all of my composing, the answer is to NOT try to dwell on this one being THE BEST ONE; but rather to sit back, take a deep breath, and simply do what I've been doing all month. That's been the best part about this process for me: doing it day after day has given me confidence and the feeling that yes, I could come up with one of these at any time. Are they great? That's for others to decide. Are some better than others? Of course. As with most things in life, it's the journey that is more important than the destination. I do think this one is fun, however, and I would encourage everyone to work it up (with diligent practice) to the fastest speed possible. There are a couple of corners to negotiate, but all in all it plays pretty well under the fingers. You'll notice it ends not with a bang, but with a whisper. I had to leave room for the sequel!!

**James M. Stephenson June, 2012**

Piano

*Dedicated to Dennis Caron, as a gift from his wife, Marsha, on the occasion of their 42nd wedding anniversary: July 4, 2012*

# Suite Nostalgique

## I. Bragtime

(from Daytudes, Vol. 1, #8)

James M. Stephenson

edited by Aaron Witek

Ragtime (♩=120)

Sheet music for **I. Bragtime** (Ragtime, ♩=120), featuring a Tpt. (Trumpet) and Piano (Piano) part. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major.

The score is divided into three systems, each containing a Tpt. staff and a Piano grand staff (treble and bass clef).

**System 1:** The Tpt. part begins with a whole rest. The Piano part starts with a **f** (forte) dynamic, featuring triplet eighth notes in the right hand and a bass line with eighth notes. The system concludes with a **p** (piano) dynamic.

**System 2:** The Tpt. part begins with a **f** (forte) dynamic, followed by a **mp** (mezzo-piano) section marked **a tempo**, and ends with a **mf** (mezzo-forte) section. The Piano part features a **f** (forte) dynamic, a **p** (piano) dynamic section with triplet eighth notes, and a **mf** (mezzo-forte) section.

**System 3:** The Tpt. part begins with a **f** (forte) dynamic, followed by a **mf** (mezzo-forte) section, and ends with a **p** (piano) section. The Piano part features a **mf** (mezzo-forte) dynamic, a **p** (piano) dynamic section, and a **mf** (mezzo-forte) section.

11

*mf*

*p*

14

17

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*mf*

20 *f* *8va<sub>1</sub>* *loco* *f* *wa*

23 *wa* *p* *mf* *p* *p*

26 *f* *p* *f*

The musical score is for a piece titled "Suite Nostalgique". It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor), and the time signature is 3/4. The first system (measures 20-22) shows a vocal line starting with a forte (f) dynamic and a piano accompaniment with a complex texture of chords and moving lines. The second system (measures 23-25) continues the vocal line with lyrics "wa" and "loco", and the piano accompaniment with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The third system (measures 26-28) shows the vocal line with a forte (f) dynamic and the piano accompaniment with a piano (p) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, chords, and dynamic markings.

29

*f*

32

35

*p*

*p*

*f*

This musical score is for the piece "Suite Nostalgique" on page 5. It contains measures 29 through 35. The score is written for a piano, with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. Measure 29 begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measures 32 and 35 contain piano (*p*) and forte (*f*) markings. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, accidentals, and dynamic markings. A large, diagonal watermark reading "COMPOSERJUN.COM" is overlaid across the entire page.

38

*p*

*p*

*f*

*p*

41

*f* *p*

*f* *p*

*f* *p*

*f* *p*

*f*

44

*f*

8va

The musical score is for a piece titled "Suite Nostalgique". It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system (measures 38-40) begins with a piano introduction. The second system (measures 41-43) features a melody in the right hand and accompaniment in the left. The third system (measure 44) continues the melody and accompaniment. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, time signatures, and dynamic markings.

47

loco

3

50

3

52

*f*

*p*

*f*

56

56

## II. A Minor Reminder

(from Daytudes, Vol. 1, #1)

Andante espressivo ♩ = 66

60

61

62

63

10

*p* *>* *p* *pp* *poco* *p* *sub. pp*

14

*mp* *p* *mf*

18 *poco piu mosso*

*leggiere*

21

*mf* *leggero*

*p*

24

*f* *p* *mf*

27

*mf* *f* *p*

This musical score is for a piece titled "Suite Nostalgique". It consists of three systems of music, each with three measures. The first system starts at measure 21. The second system starts at measure 24. The third system starts at measure 27. The music is written for a piano, with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The dynamics range from *mf* (mezzo-forte) to *p* (piano). The tempo/mood is indicated as *leggero* (light). The notation includes various note values, rests, and articulation marks. A large, diagonal watermark "COMPOSERJUN.COM" is overlaid across the entire page.

30 *slight rit.*

*f* *p* *f*

3 3

33 *more rit.* **Tempo Primo** ♩ = 66

*p* *mp* > *mp* > *p* *mp* < *f* *f*

*p*

38

*f* *p* *mp*

*f* *p*

43

*mf* *p* *mp* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp*

*slowing*

### III. What A Ride

(from Daytudes, Vol. 1, #28)

*Allegro possibile*

2

*p*

*p*

5

*p*

*p*

8

*f* *p*

11

*p*

14

*f* *p*

17

20

23

*p*

This musical score is for a piece titled "Suite Nostalgique". It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system (measures 17-19) features a melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the bass staff. The second system (measures 20-22) continues the melody and bass line, with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking in measure 21. The third system (measures 23-25) shows the melody and bass line continuing. A large, diagonal watermark reading "COMPOSERJUN.COM" is overlaid across the entire page.

27

*p*

*mf*

31

*f*

*p*

*f*

*p*

35

*f*

*p*

*f*

*p*

39

*f*

42

*f* *f*

45

*p*

*p*

48

*f* *p*

51

53

*f*

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56

*p*

59

*f*

*mf*

62

*p*

*pp*

*p*

*pp*

o

This musical score is for the piece 'Suite Nostalgique' and covers measures 56 through 62. The music is written for a piano, with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'COMPOSERJUN.COM' is overlaid across the entire page. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 56-58) features a melodic line in the treble staff with slurs and ties, and a harmonic accompaniment in the bass staff. Dynamics include piano (*p*). The second system (measures 59-61) shows a more active treble staff with a forte (*f*) dynamic, while the bass staff provides a steady accompaniment. Dynamics range from forte (*f*) to mezzo-forte (*mf*). The third system (measures 62-64) concludes the piece with a final melodic phrase in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass, ending with piano (*p*) and pianissimo (*pp*) dynamics. A small 'o' symbol is located below the first staff of the third system.