

HENRY L. DORN

SONATA

FOR SOPRANO SAX AND PIANO

2023

HLD3 Music (ASCAP)

Sonata for Soprano Sax and Piano

Duration

15:00 minutes

Program Note

In summer 2022, Michigan-based saxophonist Nathan Salazar approached me about collaborating on a new work. His goal was commissioning select composers to help expand the repertoire available for soprano saxophone. We talked his musical interests and tastes the next several months, and then in late spring/early summer 2023 I began work on his piece in earnest.

My sonata took form largely during summer 2023 as I was traveling and engaged with residencies. Sketches for the first and third movements for formed, in part, during my time in Manhattan in June of 2023, drawing on the sleeplessness nightscape sounds of New York for the first movement that gives way to a bustling activity during the day (movement III). The second movement was conceived while at Aaron Copland's residence in Cortlandt Manor, not far from the Hudson River about an hour north of Lower Manhattan. As I sat at the piano in his studio, I was stuck oscillating two major chords a third a part and a tone row that became the foundation for that movement, signifying the beautiful, elusive setting of Copland's home.

Commissioned by Nathan Salazar

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Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano

1.

Moderately $\text{♩} = 92$

Soprano Saxophone

Piano

Ped.

Rubato

rit......

A Moving $\text{♩} = 88$

Ped.

10

Measures 10-12 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano. The Soprano Saxophone part (top staff) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic, followed by a forte (*f*) dynamic, and then a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Piano part (bottom staves) features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic in measure 10, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic in measure 11. The Piano part includes a triplet of eighth notes in measure 10 and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 11. The Soprano Saxophone part includes a triplet of eighth notes in measure 10 and a sextuplet of eighth notes in measure 11.

13

Measures 13-14 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano. The Soprano Saxophone part (top staff) begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic, and then a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Piano part (bottom staves) features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic in measure 13, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic in measure 14. The Piano part includes a triplet of eighth notes in measure 13 and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 14. The Soprano Saxophone part includes a quintuplet of eighth notes in measure 13 and a quintuplet of eighth notes in measure 14.

15

Measures 15-17 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano. The Soprano Saxophone part (top staff) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic, followed by a forte (*f*) dynamic, and then a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Piano part (bottom staves) features a forte (*f*) dynamic in measure 15, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic in measure 16, and then a forte (*f*) dynamic in measure 17. The Piano part includes a triplet of eighth notes in measure 15 and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 16. The Soprano Saxophone part includes a septuplet of eighth notes in measure 15 and a septuplet of eighth notes in measure 16.

18

sub. *p*

sub. *p*

21

B

f

f

Ped.

23

f

p

p

*half ped
Ped.

25

f *p* *sub. f* *p* *pp*

5 6 3

Ped.

=

27

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

3 5 6

Ped.

=

29

f *f* *C*

Ped.

31

p

7/16 7/16 7/16

34

mp

f

p

7/16 3/4 3/4

37

mf *mp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

7/16 4/4 4/4

40

D

f *sub. p*

f *sub. pp*

4/4 3/4

71

Measures 71-73 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano, I. The score is written for Soprano Saxophone (treble clef) and Piano (grand staff). Measure 71: Saxophone has a half rest, piano has a half note G4. Measure 72: Saxophone has a half rest, piano has a half note A4. Measure 73: Saxophone has a half note B4, piano has a half note B4. Dynamics: *mf* (Saxophone), *p* (Piano). Articulation: accents on piano notes. A large double bar line is at the end of measure 73.

74

Measures 74-76 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano, I. The score is written for Soprano Saxophone (treble clef) and Piano (grand staff). Measure 74: Saxophone has a half note B4, piano has a half note B4. Measure 75: Saxophone has a half note C5, piano has a half note C5. Measure 76: Saxophone has a half note D5, piano has a half note D5. Dynamics: *mp* (Saxophone), *mf* (Piano). Articulation: accents on piano notes. A large double bar line is at the end of measure 76.

77

Measures 77-79 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano, I. The score is written for Soprano Saxophone (treble clef) and Piano (grand staff). Measure 77: Saxophone has a half note E5, piano has a half note E5. Measure 78: Saxophone has a half note F5, piano has a half note F5. Measure 79: Saxophone has a half note G5, piano has a half note G5. Dynamics: *mf* (Saxophone), *f* (Piano). Articulation: accents on piano notes. A large double bar line is at the end of measure 79.

80

mf *sub. p* *f*

(8)

f p sub. *f*

82

(8)

84

ff *ff*

(8)

8va

9/16 9/16 9/16

86 *a tempo*

p *f* *p* *cresc.*

90

mf *p* *pp* *sub. ff*

94

dim. *mf* *dim.*

97

pp

(8)

100

f

sub.f

p

Ped.

102

p

f

sub.f

(Ped.)

104

sub. *p* *f* *p* *pp*

(Ped.)

una corda

107

[H]

(Ped.) (u.c.)

110

8^a

(u.c.)

113

cresc.

(8)

cresc.

(u.c.)

tre corde

115

116

f

f

117

118

sub. p

f

sub. p

f

Red.

119

120

This image shows a page of a musical score for 'The Swan' by Camille Saint-Saëns, measures 121 through 128. The score is written for voice and piano. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 3/4.

Measures 121-123: The voice part begins with a melodic line. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. The key signature changes to B-flat major (two flats).

Measures 124-125: The voice part continues with a melodic line. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. The key signature changes to B-flat major (two flats).

Measures 126-128: The voice part continues with a melodic line. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. The key signature changes to B-flat major (two flats).

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, triplets, and dynamic markings (p, mf, f, ff). The piano part is marked with a 'p' (piano) and the voice part is marked with a 'p' (piano).

129

mf

mf

3

131

p

p

3

3

3

rit.

134

dim.

ppp

ppp

ppp

8^a

(Tw.)

2.

Soprano Saxophone

$\text{♩} = 56$

f > *p* — *f* — *p* — *f* — *p*

[1] **A** Slow, meditative $\text{♩} = 56$

f — *p* — *mf*

p

mf — *p* — *f*

mf — *mp* — *p*

mf — *mp* — *p*

28 **accel.....**

mf

31 **With momentum** ♩ = 66 **D**

p *pp*

34

mf

44

mf 5 9 3 3

=

46

f 12 3

(Led.)

=

48

p **F** 12 3

p *f* 8ba

51

Measures 51-52 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano. The score is written for Soprano Saxophone and Piano. Measure 51 features a piano (*p*) melody in the soprano saxophone and a piano accompaniment in the piano. Measure 52 features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) melody in the soprano saxophone and a mezzo-forte accompaniment in the piano. The piano part includes a sixteenth-note triplet in measure 51 and a sixteenth-note triplet in measure 52.

53

Measures 53-54 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano. Measure 53 features a piano (*p*) melody in the soprano saxophone and a piano accompaniment in the piano. Measure 54 features a forte (*f*) melody in the soprano saxophone and a forte accompaniment in the piano. The piano part includes a sixteenth-note triplet in measure 53 and a sixteenth-note triplet in measure 54.

55

Measures 55-56 of the Sonata for Soprano Saxophone and Piano. Measure 55 features a piano (*p*) melody in the soprano saxophone and a piano accompaniment in the piano. Measure 56 features a fortissimo (*ff*) melody in the soprano saxophone and a fortissimo accompaniment in the piano. The piano part includes a sixteenth-note triplet in measure 55 and a sixteenth-note triplet in measure 56.

58

(Ped.)

61

p *mf*

64

rit. Reflective ♩ = 56

G

pp *p*

67

cresc.

cresc.

69

mf

mf

72

p

p

(Ped.)

3.

As fast as you can manage ♩ = 144

Soprano Saxophone

Piano

f *ff* *sfz* *sfz*

mf *mf* *f*

mf *f*

8

9

f

12

f

15

A

p *mf*

18

p *mf*

21

f *sf* *sub. p* *f*

24

B

sfp *sfp*

49 **D**

p cresc.

p

53

f

f

56

dim.

dim.

59

p

62

E

f

64

sfz

66

sfz *sfz*

68

F

ff *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

71

sfz *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

74

ff

ff

78

G

p

p

82

p

107

Measures 107-110. The Soprano Saxophone part features a melodic line with slurs and accents. The Piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

111

Measures 111-114. Measure 111 has a forte (*ff*) dynamic. Measures 112-114 show a dynamic shift to *f dim.* The Soprano Saxophone part has a melodic line with slurs. The Piano accompaniment features chords and a bass line.

115

Measures 115-118. Measure 115 has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measures 116-118 show a dynamic shift to mezzo-forte (*mf*). The Soprano Saxophone part has a melodic line with slurs. The Piano accompaniment features chords and a bass line.

118

p *mf* *f*

121

sf *ff*

124

sfz *mf*

127

127 128 129 130

f *mf*

130

130 131 132 133

f *mf* *f*

133

133 134 135 136

ff *ff*