

2020

SPENCER A. ROBERTS

**MUSIC FOR DOUBLE BASS AND PIANO**

**ADOMUS PUBLICATIONS**

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

*Music for Double Bass and Piano* (2020) is a work that features two distinct and opposing characters; the first being a very aggressive and dissonant theme that reflects my artistic taste and style in the present, while the other is its antithesis, a gentle waltz theme in major, its tender and innocent nature representing my earlier taste as a composer before the inevitable maturation of my musical language to this point. The feud between these two very opposing personas is the central and driving force of the work, and over the course of three movements both characters transform themselves and return in previous versions, adding more depth to the fight. The majority of the piece is owned by the assertive and decisive texture of the more dominant and dissonant character, yet the gentler, more traditional waltz theme performs repeated and feeble attempts to steal the foreground. These attempts are absorbed by the unrelenting opening persona, the style that rings truest to my identity as a composer, only for the waltz to resurface again and again, refusing to dissolve, until finally it is crushed by the truthfulness and strength of the first persona. These displays of triumph symbolize the shedding of my less sophisticated youth in favor of the more honest and technically sound present version of artistic maturity, and through this transformation within myself I have been able to create this piece. In composing this work, I was influenced heavily by the exploits of Stravinsky, as I have been in many of my creations; the natural unfolding and development of cellular musical ideas in the work of Stravinsky parallels the trajectory of this feud, therefore highlighting and enhancing the overall program of this work.

*Commissioned by Jeremiah Rupp*

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# MUSIC FOR DOUBLE BASS AND PIANO

## I. FAST

Spencer A. Roberts

b. 1996

Extremely Agitated, ♩ = 184

Double Bass

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Piano

5

A

D.B.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

8

D.B.

Pno.

11

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

D.B.

Pno.

14

D.B. *sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz fff*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!** *fff*

**B**

D.B. *p f*

Pno. *pp mf*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

21

D.B. *mp*

Pno. *f sfz p sfz sfz sfz*

24

D.B. *ff sfz sfz sfz sfz mf*

Pno. *sfz f sfz sfz sfz sfz mp*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

27 *violently*

D.B. *fff sfz sfz sfz sfz*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

30 *wild shake* **C**

D.B. *sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz*

Pno. *fff sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

34

D.B. *sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz*

Pno. *sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz*

38 *Cadenza* *rit.*

D.B. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

Delicate Waltz, ♩ = 92

44 *cantabile*

D.B. *p* *p*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!** *p*

**D** Frantically, ♩ = 210

D.B. *fff*

Pno. *fff* *ff* 5 3

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

55

D.B.

Pno. *mf* *pp* *fff* *p* 3 3 3 3

60

D.B. *ppp*

Pno. *mf* *p* 3 3 3 3 *p* 3 3

65

D.B.

*mf* *fff*

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

71

D.B.

Pno.

*ff* *pp*

*mf* *pp* *mf*

75

D.B.

Pno.

*mf* *pp* *f*

*pp*

*Cadenza*

82

D.B.

*rit.*

Pno.

*p* *mp* *pp* *f*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Delicate Waltz, ♩ = 92

*cantabile*

88

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

**E** Frantically, ♩ = 210

95

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

101

D.B.

Pno.

*ff* *pp*

*mf* *pp* *mf*

105

D.B.

Pno.

*pp* *pizz.* (L.V.)

*mf* *pp* *p*

*pp*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**



111

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

118

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

124

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

pizz. (L.V.)

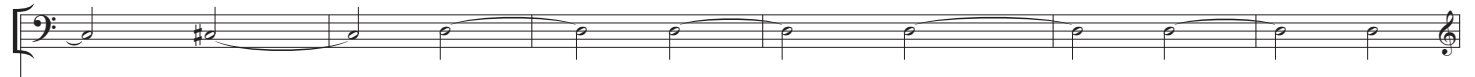
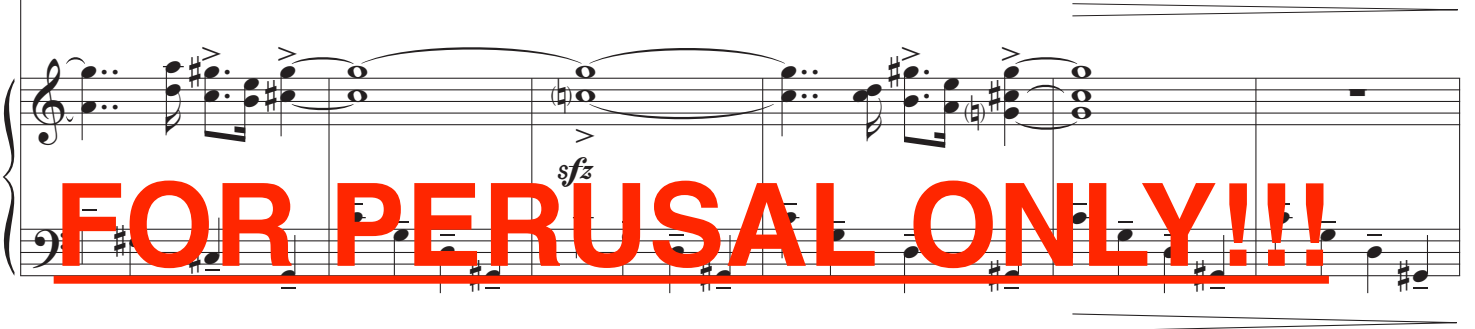
130

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

136

D.B.   
Pno.   
**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

142

D.B.   
Pno.   
**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

146

D.B.   
Pno.   
**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

150

D.B.   
Pno.   
**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

154

D.B. *arco*  
*ppp* *mp*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

160

D.B. *pizz.*  
*pp*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

164

D.B. *arco*  
*ppp* *mp* *f*

Pno. *pp* *mp*

*Cadenza*

170

D.B. *rit.*  
*mp* *pp* *f*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Delicate Waltz, ♩ = 92

*cantabile*

177

D.B. *p* *f*

Pno. *p* *f*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

*accel.*

184

D.B. *ff* *ppp* *mp*

Pno. *ff* *ppp* *mp*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

**F** Even More Frantically, ♩ = 220

191

D.B. *ppp* *fff* *p*

Pno. *ppp* *fff* *pp*

196

D.B. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno. *mf* *f sfz*

199

D.B. *mp* *ff*

Pno. *p sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz J* *sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

202

D.B. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *mf*

Pno. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *mp*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

205

D.B. *violently* *fff* *fff* *fff* *fff* *fff* *fff* *fff* *fff* *wild shake*

Pno. *ff* *fff*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

# II. SLOW

Romantically, ♩ = ca. 62

*rit.*

**A** *a tempo*  
*molto appassionato*

Double Bass

*Cadenza*  
*espressivo*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Piano

D.B.

8

*mf* *p* *mf* *p* *f* *p*

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

D.B.

14

*f* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Pno.

D.B.

20

**B** *accel.*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

*ppp* *pp*

*ppp*

27

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

**C** Awkward Dance, ♩ = 160

D.B.

Pno.

40

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

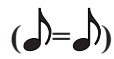
46

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

14



51

D.B. *ff* *sfz* *sfz*

Pno. *ff* *sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

56

D.B. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Pno. *sfz* *sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

61

D.B. *mf* *ff*

Pno. *mp* *ff*

65

D.B. *mf* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz*

Pno. *mp* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz*


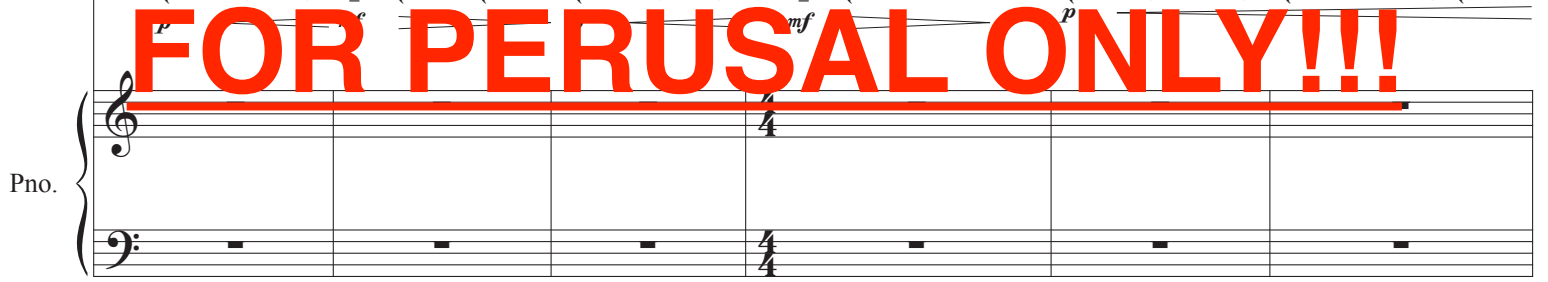
**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**



Romantically, ♩ = ca. 62

**D**

*molto appassionato*

D.B.   
Pno. 

D.B.   
Pno. 


**E** Slightly Faster Still, ♩ = ca. 78


*accel*

D.B.   
Pno. 

D.B.   
Pno. 

*accel.*

D.B. 

Pno. 

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

**F**

Awkward Dance, ♩ = 160

D.B. 


Pno. 


**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

D.B. 

Pno. 

(♩ = ♩)

D.B. 

Pno. 

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

(♩=♩)

117

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

122

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

(♩=♩)

127

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

130

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Romantically, ♩ = ca. 62

*rit.*

134

D.B.

*sfz sfz sfz*

**Cadenza**  
*espressivo*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

*sfz sfz sfz*

*p* *f*

141

D.B.

*p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

*a tempo*  
*molto appassionato*

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

147

D.B.

*f* *p* *f* *p* *mf*

Pno.

152

D.B.

*mf* *f*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

### III. FASTER

Extremely Angry, ♩ = 170

Double Bass

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Piano

6 *accel.*

D.B.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

10 **A** ♩ = 196

D.B.

*mp* *pp*

*cool, jazzy*

*mp*

16 *cool, jazzy*

D.B.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

*mp* *mf* *mp*

Pno.

20  
23

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Extremely Angry, ♩ = 170

28

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

33

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

40

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

*rit.*

(♩=♩)

47

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

*sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *mf*

Incredibly Angry, ♩ = 170

53

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

*fff* *fff*

*wild shake*

♩ = 196

58

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

*fff* *p*

64

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

*mf* *p*

22  
69

D.B.

*ppp* *mf*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

*p* *mf*

**D** Mysteriously, ♩ = 92

*cantabile*

D.B.

*p*

Pno.

*pp*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

81 *Franzically*, ♩ = 216 *rit*

D.B.

*sfz* *sfz*

Pno.

*sfz* *ff* *ff*

85 Mysteriously, ♩ = 92

D.B.

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

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

*pp*



90

D.B.

*p* *mf*

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

**E** Frantically, ♩ = 210

D.B.

*fff* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Pno.

*fff* *p*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

100

D.B.

*sfz* *sfz*

Pno.

*mf* *sfz* *ff* *pp*

*mf* *pp*

105

D.B.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Pno.

*mf* *pp* *sfz* *sfz*

*mf* *pp*

24

112

D.B. *ppp* *ff* *mp*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!** *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

118

F

D.B. *ppp* *mf* *ppp* *ff*

Pno. *sfz* *sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

126

D.B. *sfz* *sfz*

Pno. *ff* *sfz*

133

D.B. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Pno. *sfz* *sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

138

D.B. *sfz* *fff*

Pno. *sfz* *fff*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

**G** Even More Frantically, ♩ = 220

D.B.

Pno. *ff* *sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

147

D.B. *p sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Pno. *p*

**H**

151

D.B. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *fff* *p*

Pno. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *fff* *pp*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

154

D.B. *f*

Pno. *m* **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!** *sf*

157

D.B. *mp* *ff*

Pno. *p sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz f* *sfz*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

160

D.B. *sfz sfz sfz sfz mf*

Pno. *sfz sfz sfz sfz mp*

163 *violently* *wild shake*

D.B. *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

Pno. *ff* *fff*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Romantically, ♩ = ca. 62

I

*molto appassionato*

D.B. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Pno. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

173

D.B. *f* *p* *f* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

Agriest, ♩ = 170

179

D.B. *p* *fff*

Pno. *fff*

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

185

D.B.

Pno. *fff*

D.B.

Pno.

**FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!**

The image shows a musical score for two instruments: Double Bass (D.B.) and Piano (Pno.). The score is for measures 28 and 189. The D.B. part is in the bass clef, and the Pno. part is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs). A large, bold, red watermark reading "FOR PERUSAL ONLY!!!" is overlaid across the piano part. The watermark is underlined. The piano part includes a dynamic marking of *ffz* and a fermata over a note in the final measure of the system.