

Procession and Burlesque (2019)

for flute, bass clarinet, electric guitar,
piano, and contra-bass

A response to Judith Schaechter's stained glass artwork
"The Battle of Carnival and Lent"

Commissioned by fivebyfive

JONATHAN RUSSELL



"The Battle of Carnival and Lent" stained glass by Judith Schaechter

Procession and Burlesque was commissioned by the Rochester-based ensemble five-by-five as a response to Judith Schaechter's stunning stained glass work "The Battle of Carnival and Lent." The work on its own is so vital and fresh, so teeming with energy, passion, and intricate detail, that I was initially doubtful about what music could possibly add to it. The approach that finally clicked for me was to think about the inherent qualities of the two media; specifically, that a work of visual art is temporally static, while music progresses through time. The thing that music could add, then, was a narrative. If the artwork depicted a single snapshot in time, what might have led up to this moment – and what would come after? After an introduction that sets the tone and mood, the "Procession" depicts the lead-up to the moment depicted in the stained glass, as the opposing sides of human nature represented by "carnival" and "lent" warily approach one another, getting closer and closer. An ominous melody repeats again and again, getting more intense and insistent on each iteration, like a procession gradually getting closer and closer. Then a brief pause as the two sides size each other up... and then all hell breaks loose in the madcap "Burlesque," a whirling frenzy of klezmer, surf rock, and manic carnival music. After building to a searing climax, the "introduction" music returns, and gradually winds down. We are left amidst the wreckage, devastatingly aware of the steep cost of the conflict.

Procession and Burlesque

A response to Judith Schaechter's stained glass artwork
"The Battle of Carnival and Lent"

Jonathan Russell

Commissioned by fivebyfive

Mysteriously ♩ = 72

The score is written for five instruments in 4/4 time with a tempo of 72 beats per minute. The Flute part begins with a *p* dynamic and features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The Bass Clarinet part is mostly silent, with rests. The Electric Guitar part is marked *ppp* and includes a capo at the 8th fret, indicated by a dashed line and the text "Use 'dropped D' tuning throughout". The Piano part is marked *p* and features a sustained chord in the right hand and rests in the left hand. The Double Bass part is marked *p* and includes a *pizz.* (pizzicato) instruction, with a rhythmic pattern of eighth and quarter notes.

Flute *p*

Bass Clarinet

Electric Guitar *ppp* Use "dropped D" tuning throughout 8^{va}

Piano *p*

Double Bass *p* pizz.

A

8

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

mf

f

f

f

arco

f

(8va)

B

16

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

p

mp

p

p

mp

p

24

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

mp

mf

f

pizz. arco

32

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

C growing very gradually, like a procession getting closer and closer

growing very gradually, like a procession getting closer and closer

pizz. growing very gradually, like a procession getting closer and closer
arco

39

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

**

D

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

Palm mute

mf

52

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

*

E

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

60

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

61

62

63

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

64

65

F

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

ff

ff

ff

pizz.

fff

68

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

71

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

74

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

77

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

G

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

p

mp

rit.

H Fast and manic ♩ = 260

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

ff

93

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

f

Slur ad lib.

100

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

I

106

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

112

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

This system contains measures 112 through 117. The Flute (Fl.) part consists of rests. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) and Electric Guitar (E. Gtr.) parts play eighth-note patterns, with some accidentals. The Piano (Pno.) and Double Bass (D.B.) parts provide a steady eighth-note accompaniment, with the piano part including chordal textures in the right hand.

118

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

This system contains measures 118 through 123. The Flute (Fl.) part consists of rests. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) and Electric Guitar (E. Gtr.) parts continue with eighth-note patterns, with some accidentals. The Piano (Pno.) and Double Bass (D.B.) parts continue with eighth-note accompaniment, with the piano part including chordal textures in the right hand.

123

J

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

ff

ff

Slur ad lib.

128

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

134

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

K

140

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

8va

arco

146

Fl.

B. Cl.

E.Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

(8va)

152

Fl.

B. Cl.

E.Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

L

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

f

mf

pizz.

mf

163

f

168

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

173

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

M

ff

f

179

Fl.

f

B. Cl.

fff

E.Gtr.

f

fff

Pno.

fff

D.B.

fff

arco

N

184

Fl.

B. Cl.

E.Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

190

Fl.

B. Cl.

E.Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

O accel.

195

Fl.

B. Cl.

E.Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

P ♩ = 88

200

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

fff

fff

fff

206

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

16

212 Q ♩ = 72

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

mf

mf

mf

mf

219 R

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

mf

mf

mf

mf

225

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

230

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

p

p

p

p

p

8va

8va

p

235

Fl.

B. Cl.

E. Gtr.

Pno.

D.B.

The musical score for measures 235-238 is arranged for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), B. Clarinet (B. Cl.), Electric Guitar (E. Gtr.), Piano (Pno.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The Flute, B. Clarinet, and Electric Guitar parts consist of whole rests in each measure. The Piano part features a melodic line in the right hand, starting with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) in measure 235, followed by a half note (C5) in measure 236, and then a half note (B4) in measure 237, leading to a whole note (C5) in measure 238. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with a series of chords, each marked with a fermata. The Double Bass part provides a steady bass line with a series of half notes, each marked with a fermata.