

MOZART'S SANDBOX

J. Scott McKenzie

Grade 3

Concert Band

MOZART'S SANDBOX

Program Notes

When he's not playing clarinet, my son Jimmy likes to play Roller Coaster Tycoon on our home computer. It's an amusement park simulation game whose object is to achieve goals: winning a safety award, building a coaster to a certain size, or earning a specific amount of money. Jimmy prefers to play in sandbox mode, where the canvas is completely blank, money is no object, and the only limitation is his imagination.

I have often wondered what kind of music the great composers of the past would write if they lived today. Most composers are considered great because they pushed the boundaries of the music of their time, but they were still limited (at least by today's standards) by the technology of their instrumentation and the expectations of their audiences. What kind of music would an extraordinarily creative musical mind like Mozart write if he'd been exposed to jazz or rock and roll? Would he have embraced the electric guitar or synthesizers? What would he have thought of Schoenberg's twelve-tone serial music?

It's impossible to answer that question, but it's been fun imagining what the answer might be. In Mozart's Sandbox, I begin with a simple melody characteristic of the 18th century, using the instruments Mozart knew at the time, and then imagine him discovering what new sounds and 21st-century concepts he has at his disposal as the piece is composed. He quickly discovers the trombones and trumpets don't have to remain on the B-flat overtone series. By the time he reaches the second theme (he's still writing in sonata form), it occurs to him that he doesn't have to stay in the same time signature, so he moves into a minuet. By the development section, he discovers the percussion and realizes he can play with dynamics...and so on until by the end of the piece he's experimented with latin music, jazz, and polytonality. I imagine two hundred years of time travel can be disorienting, so at one point in the piece poor Wolfgang forgets who he is and accidentally quotes Beethoven.

I hope students and directors will enjoy this humorous, but good-natured and sincere homage to a great composer.

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MOZART'S SANDBOX

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Score

Allegro ♩ = 132

Flute *mf*

Oboe *mf*

Bassoon *mf*

Clarinet in B \flat 1 *mf* *opt. solo*

Clarinet in B \flat 2 *mf*

Clarinet in B \flat 3 *mf*

Bass Clarinet *mf*

Alto Sax. 1 *mf*

Alto Sax. 2 *mf*

Tenor Sax. *mf*

Baritone Sax. *mf*

Allegro ♩ = 132

Trumpet in B \flat 1 *mf*

Trumpet in B \flat 2 *mf*

Trumpet in B \flat 3 *mf*

Horns in F 1&2 *mf*

Trombone 1 *mf*

Trombone 2 *mf*

Euphonium *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Allegro ♩ = 132

Timpani *mf*

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Percussion 3

Percussion 4

1

2

3

4

5

6

17

Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
B \flat Cl. 1
B \flat Cl. 2
B \flat Cl. 3
B. Cl.
A. Sx. 1
A. Sx. 2
T. Sx.
B. Sx.

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

17

B \flat Tpt. 1
B \flat Tpt. 2
B \flat Tpt. 3
Hns. 1&2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Euph.
Tuba

mf

mf

mf

mp

mp

mp

mp

17

Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Perc. 3
Perc. 4

27 *opt. solo*

Fl. *mf* *f* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 3 *f* *mp*

B. Cl. *f* *mp*

A. Sx. 1 *f*

A. Sx. 2 *f*

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

27

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *f*

Hns. 1&2 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2 *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

27

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3 triangle *mf*

Perc. 4

35 (*tutti*)

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

35

B \flat Tpt. 1

B \flat Tpt. 2

B \flat Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

35

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38

47

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

mp

p

47

B \flat Tpt. 1

B \flat Tpt. 2

B \flat Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

p

p

p

p

p

p

47

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

58

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

58

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

B♭ Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

58

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

mf

bell tree (quick swipe with metal mallet)

BD

mf

mf

ride cym. (near edge)

mf

66

Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
B \flat Cl. 1
B \flat Cl. 2
B \flat Cl. 3
B. Cl.
A. Sx. 1
A. Sx. 2
T. Sx.
B. Sx.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 66 through 70. It includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, three B-flat Clarinets, Bass Clarinet, two Alto Saxophones, Tenor Saxophone, and Bass Saxophone. The woodwinds play sustained notes with dynamic markings of *p* and *mf*. The strings play a rhythmic accompaniment.

66

B \flat Tpt. 1
B \flat Tpt. 2
B \flat Tpt. 3
Hns. 1&2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Euph.
Tuba

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 66 through 70. It includes parts for three B-flat Trumpets, Horns 1 & 2, two Trombones, Euphonium, and Tuba. The brass instruments play sustained notes with dynamic markings of *p* and *mf*. The Horns and Euphonium parts feature complex rhythmic patterns.

66

Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Perc. 3
Perc. 4

p *mf* BD temple blocks *p* *mf*

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 66 through 70. It includes parts for Timpani, three different Percussion 1 parts, Percussion 2, Percussion 3, and Percussion 4. Percussion 1 plays a melodic line with dynamic markings of *p* and *mf*. Percussion 2 plays a rhythmic pattern with dynamic markings of *p* and *mf*. Percussion 3 and 4 play rhythmic accompaniment.

76

Musical score for woodwinds and strings, measures 71-76. The instruments listed are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), B♭ Clarinet 1 (B♭ Cl. 1), B♭ Clarinet 2 (B♭ Cl. 2), B♭ Clarinet 3 (B♭ Cl. 3), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone 1 (A. Sx. 1), Alto Saxophone 2 (A. Sx. 2), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), and Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.). The score shows various dynamics including *mp* and *mf*. The woodwinds play sustained notes with crescendos and decrescendos, while the saxophones play rhythmic patterns.

76

Musical score for brass instruments, measures 71-76. The instruments listed are Trumpet 1 (B♭ Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (B♭ Tpt. 2), Trumpet 3 (B♭ Tpt. 3), Horns 1 & 2 (Hns. 1&2), Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The score shows sustained notes with crescendos and decrescendos across the measures.

76

Musical score for percussion, measures 71-76. The instruments listed are Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), Percussion 3 (Perc. 3), and Percussion 4 (Perc. 4). Percussion 1 includes a snare drum (SD) part starting at measure 76 with a *p* dynamic. Percussion 2, 3, and 4 play rhythmic patterns.

This page of the musical score for 'Mozart's Sandbox' features a variety of instruments. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), three Clarinets in B-flat (B♭ Cl. 1, 2, 3), Clarinet in B (B. Cl.), and Saxophones in A (A. Sx. 1, 2) and Tenor (T. Sx.) and Baritone (B. Sx.) keys. The brass section consists of three Trumpets in B-flat (B♭ Tpt. 1, 2, 3), Horns in F and C (Hns. 1&2), two Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), three different Percussion 1 (Perc. 1) parts, Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), Percussion 3 (Perc. 3) which uses a triangle, and Percussion 4 (Perc. 4). The score is divided into measures 78 through 84. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4 between measures 81 and 82. Dynamics such as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) are indicated throughout. Percussion parts include specific instructions like 'triangle', 'p' (piano), and 'sus. cym.' (suspended cymbal).

86

Fl. *ff* *subp* *solo*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *f*

B \flat Cl. 1 *p* *solo*

B \flat Cl. 2 *p* *solo*

B \flat Cl. 3 *p* *solo*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sx. 1 *f* *solo* F Horn

A. Sx. 2 *p* *solo*

T. Sx. *p* *solo*

B. Sx. *f* *p*

86

B \flat Tpt. 1 *f*

B \flat Tpt. 2 *f*

B \flat Tpt. 3 *f*

Hns. 1&2 *ff* *p*

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2 *f*

Euph.

Tuba *f*

86

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

Perc. 4

94

Fl. *a2* *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

B^b Cl. 1 *a2* *ff*

B^b Cl. 2 *a2* *ff*

B^b Cl. 3 *a2* *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Sx. 1 *ff*

A. Sx. 2 *ff*

T. Sx. *a2* *ff*

B. Sx. *ff*

94

B^b Tpt. 1 *f*

B^b Tpt. 2 *f*

B^b Tpt. 3 *f*

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1 *ff*

Tbn. 2 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

94

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

101

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1

A. Sax. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

101

B \flat Tpt. 1

B \flat Tpt. 2

B \flat Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

101

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

sus. cym.
(keep random swells subtle, no louder than *mf*)

metal wind chimes
(effect is all that matters; don't try to stay with the beat) etc.

mp
vibraphone-yarn mallets

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B \flat Tpt. 1

B \flat Tpt. 2

B \flat Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

mp

mf

Trumpet 1

105 106 107 108 109 110 111

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B \flat Tpt. 1

B \flat Tpt. 2

B \flat Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

mf

mf

f

112 113 114 115 116 117

119

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *mp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *mp*

B♭ Cl. 3 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Sx. 1 F Horn

A. Sx. 2 Euphonium

T. Sx. Euphonium

B. Sx. *mf* *mp* Tuba

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mp*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *p* *mp*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *p* *mp*

Hns. 1&2 *mp*

Tbn. 1 *p* *mp*

Tbn. 2 *p* *mp*

Euph. *mp* Trombone 2

Tuba *mp*

119

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4 xylophone *f*

118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125

127

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn. *f* *a2* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 *f*

B♭ Cl. 3 *f*

B. Cl. *f* *a2*

A. Sx. 1 *f* *a2* *mp*

A. Sx. 2 *f* *a2* *mp*

T. Sx. *f* *mp*

B. Sx. *f* *mp*

127

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *f*

Hns. 1&2 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2 *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

127

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *f*
claves
bongos
maracas

Perc. 3 *f*

Perc. 4

134

Fl. *f* *mp* *cresc.* *f* *rit.*

Ob. *mp* *cresc.* *f*

Bsn. *p* *cresc.* *f*

B♭ Cl. 1 *f* *mf cresc.* *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 *f* *p* *cresc.* *f*

B♭ Cl. 3 *p* *cresc.* *f*

B. Cl. *mp* *p* *cresc.* *f*

A. Sx. 1 *mf cresc.* *f*

A. Sx. 2 *mf cresc.* *f*

T. Sx. *p* *cresc.* *f*

B. Sx. *p* *cresc.* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *p* *cresc.* *f* *rit.*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *mp* *cresc.* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *mf cresc.* *f*

Hns. 1&2 *f*

Tbn. 1 *p* *cresc.* *f*

Tbn. 2 *p* *cresc.* *f*

Euph. *p* *cresc.* *f*

Tuba *p* *cresc.* *f*

134

Timp. *rit.*

Perc. 1 SD *mf* *cresc.*

Perc. 2 temple blocks *mp* triangle

Perc. 3 *mf*

Perc. 4 bells *f*

150

Fl. *rit.* *molto rit.*

Ob.

Bsn.

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

150

B \flat Tpt. 1 *rit.* *molto rit.*

B \flat Tpt. 2

B \flat Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1 *ff*

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

150

Timp. *sf* *f* *rit.* *molto rit.* *f*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *f*

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B \flat Cl. 1

B \flat Cl. 2

B \flat Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B \flat Tpt. 1

B \flat Tpt. 2

B \flat Tpt. 3

Hns. 1&2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

f

mf

cresc.

175

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

B♭ Cl. 1 *ff*

B♭ Cl. 2 *ff*

B♭ Cl. 3 *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Sx. 1 *ff*

A. Sx. 2 *ff*

T. Sx. *ff*

B. Sx. *ff*

175

B♭ Tpt. 1 *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *ff*

Hns. 1&2 *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ff*

Tbn. 2 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

175

Timp. *ff* *fp* *fp*

Perc. 1 *ff* *fp* *fp*

Perc. 2 *ff* *mp* *mp*
crash cym.

Perc. 3 *ff* *ff* xylophone

Perc. 4 *ff*

Fl. *fp* *ff*

Ob. *fp* *ff*

Bsn. *fp* *ff*

B \flat Cl. 1 *fp* *ff*

B \flat Cl. 2 *fp* *ff*

B. Cl. 3 *fp* *ff*

B. Cl. *fp* *ff*

A. Sx. 1 *fp* *ff*

A. Sx. 2 *fp* *ff*

T. Sx. *fp* *ff*

B. Sx. *fp* *ff*

B \flat Tpt. 1 *fp* *ff*

B \flat Tpt. 2 *fp* *ff*

B \flat Tpt. 3 *fp* *ff*

Hns. 1&2 *fp* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *fp* *ff*

Tbn. 2 *fp* *ff*

Euph. *fp* *ff*

Tuba *fp* *ff*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *ff* *ff*

Perc. 2 *ff* *mp* *ff*

Perc. 3 *mf* *ff*

Perc. 4 bells *f*

179 180 181 182 183