

DAVID BIEDENBENDER

DETROIT STEEL

for solo alto saxophone

BENT SPACE MUSIC

Performance materials available from Bent Space Music (Publisher):
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Duration: ca. 6:30

PROGRAM NOTE

Detroit Steel is based on material originally written for solo flute, a piece commissioned by Ashley Stanley for her *Hustle Harder* commissioning project. Her intention was to highlight the culture and voices of Michigan by featuring the unique perspectives and experiences of six composers who all have strong connection to the state. Ashley grew up in Metro Detroit, and the idea for her project came about during the collapse of the automotive industry. As with most political matters, Detroit's economic affairs became grounds for public debate:

“It amazed me at how uniformed people were...saying things like ‘let Detroit fail, it is a useless city anyways’ and talking about how ‘my tax dollars shouldn’t be spent paying all of the lazy people in Detroit’s unemployment and bailing out these failing automotive institutions.’ From the time I was 10 years old until I turned 22, my parents were constantly in and out of work and on unemployment. Institutions were cutting jobs, outsourcing jobs, and forcing people into a retirement they couldn’t afford to take. Every other house on my street was selling for desperate costs or being foreclosed on, every person I knew had a family member who couldn’t find work, and everybody was struggling to make ends meet on a domestic level. I am so proud to be from Detroit and am excited about the massive growth both economically and artistically that is flourishing from the city today.”

Detroit Steel is about the grit, strength, and resolve of the people of Detroit. This version for saxophone is dedicated to my friend and colleague Joe Luloff.

EDITED 9.10.2018

for my friend Joe Lulloff

Detroit Steel

for solo E♭ alto saxophone

David Biedenbender

Precise, relentless,
like a machine ♩. = 126 (♩ = 189)

The musical score consists of six staves of music for solo E♭ alto saxophone. The piece is in 6/8 time and features a variety of dynamics and articulations. The first staff begins with a dynamic of *f* and the instruction *aggressive*, followed by a *ff* dynamic. The second staff starts with *fp*, then *ff*, and *f*. The third staff includes *ffp*, *ff*, and *f*, with a *3* (triple) marking at the end. The fourth staff features *ff*, *pp*, and *f*, with a *3* (triple) marking at the end. The fifth staff shows a dynamic progression from *ff* to *mf*, *mp*, and *p*, ending with *molto*. The sixth staff begins with *f*, includes a *3* (triple) marking, and ends with *ff* and *mf*. The score includes various articulations such as accents and slurs, and dynamic markings like *ff*, *fp*, *ffp*, *pp*, *mf*, *mp*, *p*, and *molto*. A large watermark 'PROOF' is visible across the score.

71 Cool

97 Agile, relaxed (same tempo)

*pitch bend with right fore finger depressing low Bb pad cup while squeezing low Bb key with left pinky

112

116

p *p*

121

126

f

131

ff *p* *sfz* *p* *sfz* *p*

135

sfz *p* *sffz* *sffz* *sffz* *p* *sfz* *sffz*

140

f

143

f 8va

148

ff 8va

151

187

f *ff*

Musical staff 187-190: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and ends with fortissimo (*ff*). The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations.

191

Musical staff 191-194: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Continues the melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes.

195

195 *mf* *mp* *p* *molto* 3

Musical staff 195-200: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Dynamics range from mezzo-forte (*mf*) to piano (*p*). Includes a triplet of eighth notes marked *molto*.

200

sfz *f* *ff*

Musical staff 200-205: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Dynamics range from sforzando (*sfz*) to fortissimo (*ff*).

205

205 *mp* *p* *pp* *f sub. 3*

Musical staff 205-210: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Dynamics range from mezzo-piano (*mp*) to pianissimo (*pp*). Includes an 8va marking and a triplet of eighth notes.

210

ff

Musical staff 210-214: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Ends with fortissimo (*ff*).

214

Musical staff 214-218: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Continues the melodic line.

218

Musical staff 218-222: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 3/4 time signature. Continues the melodic line.

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222 *p* *f sub.*

226

230 *ff*

235 (short) *ff* 238 *ff*

241

247

251 *mp* *p* *f* 255

256

260 *ff*

264 *sfz* *f*

268 *ff*

272 *ffp* *sfz* *ffp* *sfz* *sfz* *ff* MI 275

276 *ffp* *sfz*

279 *sfz* *sfz* *ff*

284 *f* *ff*

289 *mp cool*

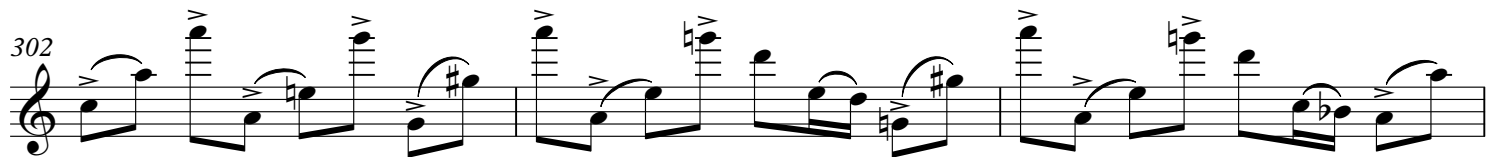
294 *f*

298 *3* *3*

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302



305



308

ff



311



314

p *falling off, don't linger* *molto* *ff*



317

f



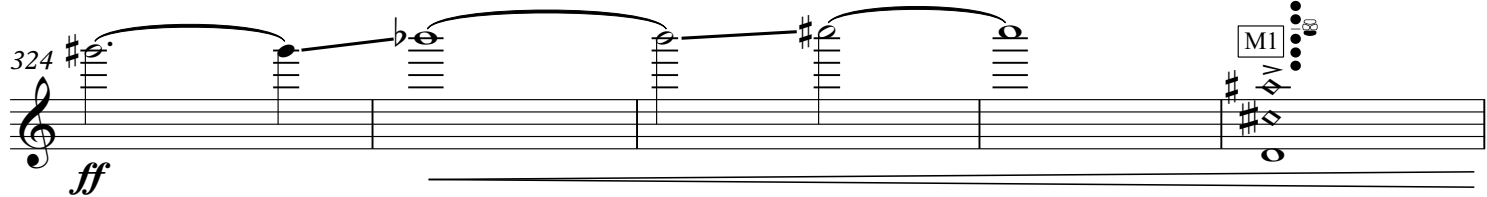
321



324

ff

M1



329

ff *8va* *sffz*

