

David Biedenbender

Enigma

for brass choir and organ

bent space music

Dedicated to my teacher, José-Luis Maúrtua.
Written for the Red Cedar Organ and the Michigan State University Brass,
with gratitude to Ed and Wanda Eichler,
for their vision to build this beautiful instrument on the MSU campus.

Performance materials available from Bent Space Music (Publisher):
www.davidbiedenbender.com

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Thanks to my friend Ken Heinlein,
whose insights into writing for brass and whose deep knowledge
and love of the music of J.S. Bach helped guide me as I wrote this work.

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INSTRUMENTATION

4 Trumpets in B \flat
4 Horns in F
3 Tenor Trombones
Bass Trombone
Tuba

Organ

Mutes Required:

Trumpets: straight, harmon, cup
Trombones: straight

Total duration: *ca.* 11:30

Transposed Score

PROGRAM NOTE

Enigma for brass choir and organ and was written for the dedication of the Red Cedar Organ in the Michigan State University Alumni Chapel. The Red Cedar Organ was made possible by the generosity of Ed and Wanda Eichler, and I am grateful for their vision to build this beautiful instrument on our campus.

Enigma comes from a Greek word that means “to speak in riddles,” and in this piece, the riddle—or theme—is revealed gradually. The theme comes from the *Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor* by Johann Sebastian Bach, which is one of my favorite pieces of music, and, once the theme is revealed, it is repeated cyclically with 21 variations, just like in Bach’s original. This piece is dedicated to my former teacher, José-Luis Maúrtua, a composer, theorist, conductor, and teacher at Central Michigan University, who also completed a second doctorate in orchestral conducting at Michigan State University. José-Luis was an extraordinary musician and teacher who was tirelessly dedicated to his students and to pushing them to do their best. I am forever grateful for the lessons I learned from him, and my music and my life are far better for having known him. Unfortunately, he was taken from this earth far too young—at the age of 57—by pancreatic cancer in the spring of 2022. I miss him dearly, and this music is for him.

Enigma

for organ and brass choir

David Biedenbender

Dancing ♩ = 108

The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The top section includes Piccolo (Bb), Trumpets (1, 2, 3 in Bb), and Horns (1, 2, 3, 4 in F). The middle section includes Trombones (1, 2, 3) and Tuba. The bottom section includes Bass and Organ. The Organ part features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, starting with a *mp* dynamic. The tempo is marked as Dancing ♩ = 108. The key signature is Bb major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. A large red watermark 'PERUSAL COPY' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

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7 9

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

harmon mute

*f*echoes

harmon mute

*f*echoes *p*

harmon mute

ff

9

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10

Picc.

1 (harmon mute) *p* *f* *p*

2 (harmon mute) *f* *p*

3 (harmon mute) *f* echoes *p*

Horns 1 2 3 4

Trombones 1 2 3

B.

Tba.

Org.

19

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

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Enigma

25 **solo**
f bold, espr.

Trumpets
1
2
3

Trombones
1
2
3
B.
Tba.

Org.

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28

Tpts. Picc.

Hns.
1
2
3
4

Org.

31

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

f

mf

solo (open)

solo

f

38

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

mf

f

p

ff

mp

mp

f

pp

f

pp

p

ff

f

swirling

3

3

3

41

43

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

(straight mute)

p

mf

f

pp

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

1

2

3

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

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46

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1, 2

3

B.

Trombones

Org.

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49

Picc.

1

2

3

open

pp

1

2

3

4

ff

6

6

6

6

ff

1

2

3

B.

ff

a 2

ff

ff

Org.

58

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Hns.

1

2

3

4

1

2

3

B.

Trombones

Org.

61

Picc.

mf floating

Trumpets

1

(pp) *f* *pp*

2

(pp) *f* *pp*

3

f *pp* *(pp)* *f*

Hns.

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Org.

61

64

Picc. *f*

1 *mf*

2 *mf*

3 *pp*

1 (a 4)

2

3

4

1 a 2

2

3

B.

Org.

The musical score is written for a symphony orchestra. It begins at measure 64. The Piccolo part starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Trumpets (1 and 2) play a melodic line with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, while the third trumpet (3) plays a sustained low note with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic. The Horns (1-4) play a sustained note with a dynamic marking of (a 4). The Trombones (1-3) and Bass Trombone (B.) play sustained notes with a dynamic marking of a 2. The Organ part features a rhythmic accompaniment in the right hand and sustained notes in the left hand.

71 in 4 (♩ = 108)

70

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Hrs.

1

2

3

4

1

2

3

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

p *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

1 2 a 2 3 3

3 4 a 2 3

ff *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

8^{ba}

71 in 4 (♩ = 108)

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73

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

Hns.

1

2

3

4

1

2

3

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

76

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

1

2

3

4

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

83

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

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1466

1467

1468

1469

1470

1471

1472

1473

1474

1475

1476

1477

1478

1479

1480

14

96

98 solo

Picc.

Trumpets

1

2

3

cup mute

p

mp graceful

cup mute solo

mp an echo of the piccolo

Horns

1

2

3

4

p

mp solemn

p

p

1.

2. *mp* solemn

3

p < *mp* > *p*

B.

p < *mp* > *p*

Tba.

p < *mp* > *p*

98

Org.

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100

Picc.

Trumpets

1

2

3

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

(♩ = ♩) 106 Flowing ♩ = 72

104

Picc.

Trumpets

1

2

3

(cup mute)

2.

p

Horns

1

2

3

4

p

3

p

mp solemn

mp solemn

mp solemn

mp solemn

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

mf to the fore

mp solemn

mp solemn

mp solemn

Org.

mp solemn

(♩ = ♩) 106 Flowing ♩ = 72

107

Picc.

Trumpets

1

2

3

(cup mute)

mf shadows (of the organ)

(cup mute)

mf shadows (of the organ)

cup mute

mf shadows (of the organ)

Hrs.

1

2

3

4

a 4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

mf

a 2

mp solemn

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114

111

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

mf

mf *solemn*

p

1

2

3

4

Hns.

a 4

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Trombones

a 2

mp

p *aching*

T+6 (continous, smooth gliss.)

114

Org.

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124

Hns. 1

Trombones 1

Trombones 2

Tba.

Org.



127

Hns. 1

Trombones 1

Trombones 2

Tba.

Org.

129

p

straight mute

pp distant foghorn

solo

mp cantabile

129

mp

130

Hns. 1

Trombones 1

Trombones 2

Tba.

Org.

straight mute

pp distant foghorn

133

Hns. 1

Trombones 1

Trombones 2

Tba.

Org.

pp

mf

p

142

Picc.

Trumpets

1

2

3

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

open

3

f

6

6

6

6

6

6

148

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

pp f pp

pp f pp

pp pp f

1

2

3

4

Hns.

a 4

f

tr

tr

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Trombones

148

Org.

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151

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Hns.

1

2

3

4

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

pp *f* *pp* *ff* *pp*

pp *f* *pp* *ff* *pp*

pp *f* *pp* *ff* *pp*

tr *tr* 3

6 6 6 6 6 6

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157

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Hrs.

1

2

3

4

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

pp

f

pp

f

pp

f

pp

f

tr

tr

tr

6

6

6

6

6

6

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160

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Hns.

1

2

3

4

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

pp *ff* *pp* *pp*

pp *ff* *pp* *pp*

pp *ff* *pp* *pp*

(a 4) 3

(a 2)

6 6 6 6 6 6

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166

Picc.

ff

6

Trumpets

1

2

3

Hns.

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

169

Picc.

Trumpets

1
2
3

ff

Hns.

1
2
3
4

3 4 a 2 *f*

Trombones

1
2
3

B.

Tba.

Org.

172

Picc.

Trumpets

1

2

3

1

2

Horns

3

4

a 2

f

(a 2)

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Trombones

172

Org.

178 180

Trumpets

1 *mf*

2. *mf*

3

Horns

1 *f* *p*

2

3 *f*

4

Trombones

1

2 *f*

3 *f*

B.

Tba.

Org. 180

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184

Horns

1 *p* *f* *p*

2 *f* *p* *f* *p*

3 *f* *p*

4

Detailed description: This section contains the musical notation for four horn parts. Horn 1 (top) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a slur over the first two measures, then has a forte (*f*) dynamic with an accent (>) in the third measure, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic. Horn 2 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and an accent (>) in the first measure, then has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Horn 3 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and an accent (>) in the second measure, then has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Horn 4 is mostly silent with some rests.

Trombones

1 *p*

2

3

B.

Tba.

Detailed description: This section contains the musical notation for three trombone parts, a baritone, and a tuba. Trombone 1 (top) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a slur over the first two measures, then has a slur over the third measure. Trombone 2 starts with a slur over the first two measures, then has a slur over the third measure. Trombone 3 starts with a slur over the first two measures, then has a slur over the third measure. Baritone and Tuba parts start with a slur over the first two measures, then have a slur over the third measure. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

Org.

Detailed description: This section contains the musical notation for the organ part. It consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with a key signature of two flats. The organ part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and accents, primarily in the treble clef.

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188

187

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

mp graceful

p graceful

p graceful

p graceful

solo

1

2

3

4

Horns

f

p

f

p

f

p

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Trombones

188

Org.

190

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Hns.

1

2

3

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

199

Picc.

Trumpets

1

2

3

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

202

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

mf

f

mf

f

mf

f

mf

f bold

f bold

f bold

207

Picc.

Trumpets

1 (a 2) *tr* $\text{tr} \sim$

2

3

Horns

1 (a 2) *tr* $\text{tr} \sim$

2

3 (a 2)

4

Trombones

1 (a 2)

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

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210 rit.

Picc.

Trumpets 1 2 3

Horns 1 2 3 4

Trombones 1 2 3

B.

Tba.

Org.

ff

ff

ff

8ba

212 Maestoso ♩ = 66

6 6 6 6 6 6

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220 Slower $\text{♩} = 54$

218

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

Horns

3

4

1

2

3

Trombones

B.

Tba.

Org.

p

pp < *f*

pp < *f* > *pp*

pp < *f* > *pp*

pp < *f* >

pp < *f* >

6

6

6

6

220 Slower $\text{♩} = 54$

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221

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

4

Trombones

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Org.

The musical score for page 66 of 'Enigma' covers measures 221 to 224. It features a variety of instruments: Piccolo, Trumpets (1-3), Horns (1-4), Trombones (1-3), Basses (B.), Tubas (Tba.), and Organ (Org.). The key signature is B-flat major. The score is characterized by dynamic markings of *pp* (pianissimo), *f* (forte), and *(pp)* (pianissimo), often with hairpins indicating crescendos and decrescendos. The Piccolo part is mostly silent. The Trumpets and Horns parts feature melodic lines with dynamic swells. The Trombones and Basses parts provide harmonic support with sustained notes and dynamic changes. The Organ part has a simple, sustained accompaniment.

228 Floating

225

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Trombones

228 Floating

Org.

236

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Trombones

236

Org.

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244

243

Picc.

1

2

3

Trumpets

1

2

3

4

Horns

p

mf

mp

p

mf

mp

p

mf

mp

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

Trombones

a 2

p solemn

p

p

8ba

p

244

Org.

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252 Fading

248

Picc.

1

2

3

1

2

3

4

pp

1

2

3

B.

Tba.

a 2

252 Fading

Org.