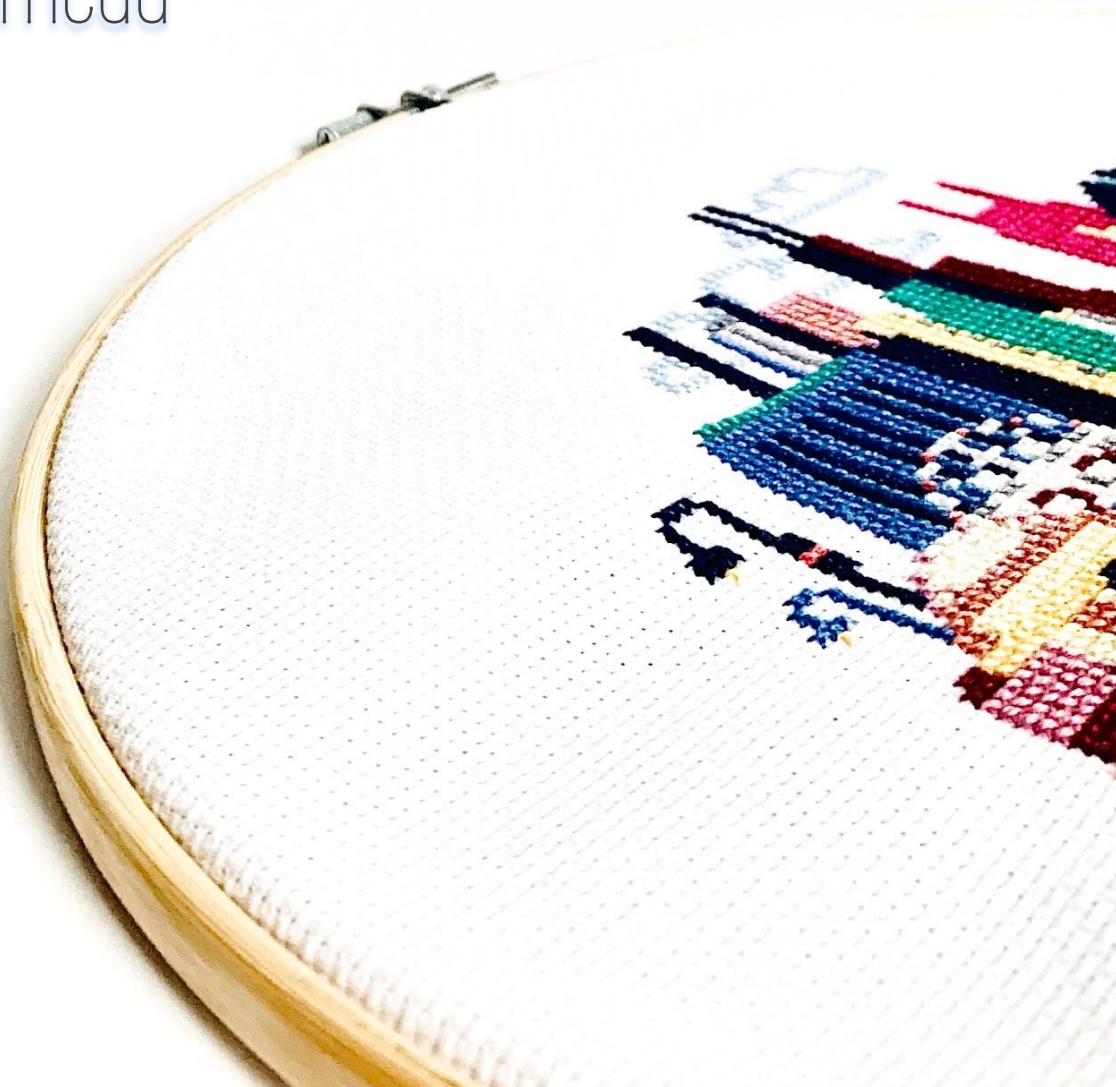


Advanced String Theory

Alexa Letourneau

solo tuba



Advanced String Theory

for solo tuba

4'15"

August 2020

Advanced String Theory is a piece heavily inspired by the composer's quarantine hobby: cross stitching. While the act of stitching is, by itself, quite calm and meditative, counting out irregularly shaped blocks of color can be confusing and feel somewhat arbitrary. Staring too closely at the pattern never reveals the big picture, which can only be accessed after hours of intricate work. Therefore, creating rhythms that follow the same irregular groupings as the colorful stitches can be a helpful memory aid in remembering where to stitch next, as well as producing a driving groove. Throughout this piece, the rhythms follow these grooves, somewhat confusing up close but synergistic as a unit, while the tuba displays an entire rainbow of timbral colors. Meditation slams head-first into intricate number games, creating a piece that is disjointed yet cohesive in hindsight, and above all, incredibly fun.

Performance Notes

The sixteenth note is constant throughout the piece.

Tempo markings are entirely approximate; the marked mood should be the goal, at whatever metronome marking works best for the individual player.

Extra care should be taken in regards to the placement of accents, especially where they do not reinforce the marked sixteenth note groupings. The overall result should be lilting, while remaining constantly driving, and the extraagogic stress is integral to this effect.

Marked slurs serve primarily as phrasing indications. The player may choose to break any of them with tonguing or breathing, if they feel it serves the music.

Commissioned by Bradley Geneser

Advanced String Theory

for solo tuba

Alexa Letourneau

Galloping ♩ = c. 112

(4+4+4+4)

p agitato

③ (3+3+3+3+3) (3+3+2) (3+3)

mp

⑥ (3+3+2+2) (3+3+2)

pp

⑨ (3+3+2) (2+3+3) (3+3+3+3)

f

⑫ (3+3+2+2)

⑭ (3+3) (3+3+2+2+3)

p mp mf

⑰ (3+3+2)

p pp

20 (4+4+4+4)

ff

22 (3+3+3+3+3) (4+4+4+4) (3+3+3)

mp

25 (3+3+3+3)

f

28 (3+3+2+2)

p *ff*

31 (3+3+2+3) (3+3+3+3) (3+3+2+2)

34 (2+2+2+2+2) (3+3+2+2)

mp *f*

37 (4+4+4+4)

p *mp* *fp*

41 (3+3+3+3)

pp

43

45

f

47 Serene and Meditative ♩ = c. 56

p con espress.

50

p *f* *mf* *pp*

53

mp *p* *f*

56

mp *f* *pp*

59

63

65


68

70

72

Two beats of rest

74



Musical notation for exercise 74, bass clef, 2/4 time signature. The piece starts with a whole rest, then changes to 3/4 time and begins with a quarter note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. The piece ends with a quarter rest in 4/4 time. A dynamic marking of *f* is placed below the first note.

76



Musical notation for exercise 76, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The piece starts with a quarter note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. The second measure contains a quarter rest. The third measure begins with a quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2, B2, C3, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F7, G7, A7, B7, C8, D8, E8, F8, G8, A8, B8, C9, D9, E9, F9, G9, A9, B9, C10, D10, E10, F10, G10, A10, B10, C11, D11, E11, F11, G11, A11, B11, C12, D12, E12, F12, G12, A12, B12, C13, D13, E13, F13, G13, A13, B13, C14, D14, E14, F14, G14, A14, B14, C15, D15, E15, F15, G15, A15, B15, C16, D16, E16, F16, G16, A16, B16, C17, D17, E17, F17, G17, A17, B17, C18, D18, E18, F18, G18, A18, B18, C19, D19, E19, F19, G19, A19, B19, C20, D20, E20, F20, G20, A20, B20, C21, D21, E21, F21, G21, A21, B21, C22, D22, E22, F22, G22, A22, B22, C23, D23, E23, F23, G23, A23, B23, C24, D24, E24, F24, G24, A24, B24, C25, D25, E25, F25, G25, A25, B25, C26, D26, E26, F26, G26, A26, B26, C27, D27, E27, F27, G27, A27, B27, C28, D28, E28, F28, G28, A28, B28, C29, D29, E29, F29, G29, A29, B29, C30, D30, E30, F30, G30, A30, B30, C31, D31, E31, 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88 (3+3+2+2) (3+3+2)

90 (2+3+3)

92 (3+3+2+2)

94 (3+3)

97 (3+3+2+2+3) (3+3)

99 (3+3+2+2+3) (3+3)

102 (3+3+2) (4+4+4+4)