

# young symphonic band series

## Contraption

By Brendan McBrien

*Contraption* is a tone poem that describes an imaginary machine through music. In this case, the machine is one of great size and power. Webster's definition of the word reads: "a device or machine regarded as strange, incomprehensible, or makeshift." The idea of applying this concept to the construction of a musical composition was one that intrigued this composer a great deal. The creation of this piece was accomplished much in the same way an inventor might build a physical contraption, resulting in three main "components" with an additional interlude. Instead of a more formal development of these ideas, the final half of the work uses only the available "parts" from the first section with minor alterations. In a sense, the material has been "scavenged" to construct the final portion of the piece. To set the mood, consider reading the following text as the performance begins:

*The giant machine lies silent, a dark specter silhouetted against the evening sky. Its massive form seems to reach up and touch the clouds. Atop, a figure can be seen climbing into a seat. After a moment (as the music begins), the great beast roars to life like a mighty dragon startled from sleep, spitting fire and smoke whilst filling the air with the deafening sound of its angry cry. It lurches forward with a groan, somewhat slowly at first, then picking up speed. Its immense wheels shake the ground in all directions as it turns upward, moving steadily away into the approaching night.*

### INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 — Conductor Score
- 10 — Flute
- 2 — Oboe
- 2 — Bassoon
- 6 — 1st B♭ Clarinet
- 6 — 2nd B♭ Clarinet
- 1 — E♭ Alto Clarinet
- 1 — B♭ Bass Clarinet
- 2 — 1st E♭ Alto Saxophone
- 2 — 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone
- 2 — B♭ Tenor Saxophone
- 1 — E♭ Baritone Saxophone
- 4 — 1st B♭ Trumpet
- 4 — 2nd B♭ Trumpet

- 2 — F Horn
- 3 — 1st Trombone
- 3 — 2nd Trombone
- 2 — Euphonium T.C.
- 2 — Euphonium B.C.
- 4 — Tuba
- Percussion – 7 players:
  - 1 — Xylophone
  - 4 — Percussion 1 (Tenor Drum/  
Triangle/Sleigh Bells, Woodblock)
  - 4 — Percussion 2 (Brake Drum/Ratchet,  
Cabasa, Bass Drum)
  - 1 — Timpani

#### WORLD PARTS

available for download from  
[www.alfred.com/worldparts](http://www.alfred.com/worldparts)

- E♭ Horn
- 1st Trombone in B♭ T.C.
- 2nd Trombone in B♭ T.C.
- 1st Trombone in B♭ B.C.
- 2nd Trombone in B♭ B.C.
- Euphonium in B♭ B.C.
- Tuba in B♭ T.C.
- Tuba in B♭ B.C.
- Tuba in E♭ T.C.
- Tuba in E♭ B.C.



# Contraption

Brendan McBrien

FULL SCORE  
Duration - 3:40

**Allegro meccanico** ♩ = 132

Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

1  
B♭ Clarinets

2  
E♭ Alto Clarinet

B♭ Bass Clarinet

1  
E♭ Alto Saxophones

2  
B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

1  
B♭ Trumpets

2  
F Horn

1  
Trombones

2  
Euphonium

Tuba

Xylophone

Percussion 1  
(Tenor Drum/Triangle/  
Sleigh Bells, Wood Block)

Percussion 2  
(Brake Drum/Ratchet,  
Cabasa, Bass Drum)

Timpani

The musical score is written for a full orchestra and percussion ensemble. It features a variety of instruments including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The score is in 4/4 time and marked 'Allegro meccanico' with a tempo of 132 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (B♭ and E♭). The score is divided into five measures, with a 'Tune' section at the bottom indicating the key signature for each measure: 1 (G, B♭, B♭), 2, 3, 4, and 5. The score includes dynamic markings such as *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *mp* (mezzo-piano), as well as articulation markings like *marcato* and *non espressivo*. A large red watermark 'Preview Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Tune: G, B♭, B♭ 1 2 3 4 5

Fl. *p*

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *f*

1 Cls. *p*

2 Cls. *p*

A. Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

1 A. Saxes *p*

2 A. Saxes *p*

T. Sax. *f*

Bar. Sax. *f*

1 Tpts. *p*

2 Tpts. *p*

Hn. *p*

1 Trbs. *f*

2 Trbs. *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Xylo.

Perc. 1 *mp* Ratchet

Perc. 2 *mp*

Timp. *f* (medium hard mallets)

6 7 8 9 10 11

12 *unison*  
*misterioso*

Fl. *p*  
*misterioso*

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *mp*  
*misterioso*

1 Cls. *p*  
*misterioso*

2 Cls. *p*

A. Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

1 A. Saxes *p*

2 A. Saxes *p*

T. Sax. *mp*

Bar. Sax. *mp*

12 *misterioso*

1 Tpts. *p*

2 Tpts. *p*  
*misterioso*

Hn. *p*

1 Trbs. *p*

2 Trbs. *p*

Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Xylo. *mf*

Perc. 1 Triangle *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Timp. *p*

12 13 14 15 16

20

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1

Cls. 2

A. Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1

A. Saxes 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1

Tpts. 2

Hn.

Trbs. 1

Trbs. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

Open

Open

*f*

*f*

20



17 18 19 20 21 22

Fl. *ff* *f* *div.*

Ob. *ff* *f*

Bsn. *ff* *f*

Cls. 1 *ff* *f*

Cls. 2 *ff* *f*

A. Cl. *ff* *f*

B. Cl. *ff* *f*

A. Saxes 1 *ff* *f*

A. Saxes 2 *ff* *f*

T. Sax. *ff* *f*

Bar. Sax. *ff* *f*

Tpts. 1 *ff* *f*

Tpts. 2 *ff* *f*

Hn. *ff* *f*

Trbs. 1 *ff* *f*

Trbs. 2 *ff* *f*

Euph. *ff* *f*

Tuba *ff* *f*

Xylo. Med. soft mallets *f*

Perc. 1 T.D. *f*

Perc. 2 Brk. Dr. *ff* Ratchet *f*

Bass Drum *ff* *f*

Timp. *ff* *f*

23 24 25 26 27

28

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn. *marcato*  
*mf*  
*stagger breath*

1  
Cls. *mf*  
*stagger breath*

2  
*mf*  
*marcato*

A. Cl. *mf*  
*marcato*

B. Cl. *mf*  
*marcato*

1  
A. Saxes *mf*

2  
*mf*  
*marcato*

T. Sax. *mf*  
*marcato*

Bar. Sax. *mf*  
*marcato*

28

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn. *mf*

1  
Trbs. *mf*

2  
*mf*  
*marcato*

Euph. *mf*  
*marcato*

Tuba *mf*  
*marcato*

Xylo. *mf* Sleigh Bells

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f* Ratchet

Timp. *f*  
*mf*

28 29 30 31 32

36

*unis., legato*

Fl. *mf*  
*legato*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mp*  
*legato*

1 Cls. *mf*  
*legato*

2 Cls. *mf*

A. Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

1 A. Saxes *mp*  
*stagger breath*

2 A. Saxes *mp*  
*stagger breath*

T. Sax. *mp*

Bar. Sax. *mp*

36

1 Tpts.

2 Tpts.

Hn. *mp*  
*stagger breath*

1 Trbs. *mp*  
*stagger breath*

2 Trbs. *mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Xylo.

Perc. 1 *f*  
 Sleigh Bells

Perc. 2

Timp. *mp*

33 34 35 36 37



Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

A. Cl.

B. Cl.

1  
A. Saxes

2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

1  
Trbs.

2

Euph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn. *marcato*  
*mf*

1  
Cls. *div.*

2

A. Cl. *marcato*  
*mf*

B. Cl. *marcato*  
*mf*

1  
A. Saxes *mf*  
*marcato*

2

T. Sax. *mf*  
*marcato*

Bar. Sax. *mf*  
*marcato*

44

1  
Tpts. *mf*  
*legato*

2

Hn. *mf*  
*marcato*

1  
Trbs. *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f*

2

Euph. *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f*

Tuba *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f* *Glissando* *sfz* *f*

Xylo. *f*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp. *mf*

52

Fl. *div.* *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Cls. 1 *ff* *unis.*

Cls. 2 *ff*

A. Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Saxes 1 *ff*

A. Saxes 2 *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

Bar. Sax. *ff*

Tpts. 1 *ff*

Tpts. 2 *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Trbs. 1 *Glissando* *ffz* *ff*

Trbs. 2 *Glissando* *ffz* *ff*

Euph. *ffz* *ff*

Tuba *ffz* *ff*

Xylo. *ffz*

Perc. 1 T.D. *ff*

Perc. 2 Brk. Dr. *ff*

Timp. *ff* dampen w/both hands dampen

Fl. *p*

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *ff*

1 Cls. *p*

2 Cls. *p*

A. Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

1 A. Saxes *p*

2 A. Saxes *p*

T. Sax. *ff*

Bar. Sax. *ff*

1 Tpts. *ff*

2 Tpts. *ff*

Hn. *p*

1 Trbs. *ff*

2 Trbs. *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Xylo. *ff*

Perc. 1 *mp* Ratchet *ff*

Perc. 2 *mp* Cabasa *ff* Cabasa dampen *mp*

Timp. *ff* w/both hands

56 57 *ff* 58 59 60 61

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Fl. *Soli, dolce*  
*mp*

Ob.

Bsn. *mf*

1  
Cls. *Soli, dolce*  
*mp*

2

A. Cl. *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

1  
A. Saxes *mf*

2 *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

Bar. Sax. *mf*

1  
Tpts. *mf*  
*espressivo*

2

Hn. *mf*

1  
Trbs. *mf*

2 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Xylo.

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 2

Timp.

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75 **Tempo I** ♩ = 132 *div.*

Fl. *p non espressivo*

Ob. *p non espressivo*

Bsn. *marcato f*

1 Cls. *p non espressivo*

2 Cls. *p non espressivo*

A. Cl. *marcato f*

B. Cl. *marcato f*

1 A. Saxes *p non espressivo*

2 A. Saxes *p non espressivo*

T. Sax. *marcato f*

Bar. Sax. *marcato f*

75 **Tempo I** ♩ = 132 *St. mute*

1 Tpts. *p non espressivo*

2 Tpts. *p non espressivo*

Hn. *p non espressivo*

1 Trbs. *marcato f*

2 Trbs. *marcato f*

Euph. *marcato f*

Tuba *marcato f*

Xylo.

Perc. 1 *f*

Brk. Dr. *mp Ratchet*

Perc. 2 *f* Cabasa *mp*

Timp. *f*







Fl. *unis.* *ff* *div.*

Ob. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

1 Cls. *mf* *ff*

2 Cls. *mf* *ff*

A. Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

1 A. Saxes *mf* *ff*

2 A. Saxes *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

Bar. Sax. *ff*

1 Tpts. *f* *ff*

2 Tpts. *f* *ff*

Hn. *ff*

1 Trbs. *ff*

2 Trbs. *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Xylo. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *Brk. Dr.* *Ratchet*

Timp. *B.D.* *ff*



Fl. *misterioso unis., stagger breath*  
*mf*

Ob. *misterioso, stagger breath*  
*mf*

Bsn. *mf* *marcato* *mp* *misterioso, stagger breath*

Cl. 1 *mf* *mf* *misterioso, stagger breath*

Cl. 2 *mf* *mf*

A. Cl. *mf* *marcato* *mp*

B. Cl. *mf* *marcato* *mp*

A. Sax. 1 *mf* *mp* *stagger breath*

A. Sax. 2 *mf* *mp* *stagger breath*

T. Sax. *mf* *mp*

Bar. Sax. *mf* *marcato* *mp*

Tpts. 1  
2

Hn. *mf* *mp* *stagger breath*

Trbs. 1 *mf* *mp* *stagger breath*

Trbs. 2 *mf* *mp* *stagger breath*

Euph. *mf* *mp*

Tuba *mf* *marcato* *mp*

Xylo. *mf*

Perc. 1 *f* *Sleigh Bells*

Perc. 2 *f*

Timp. *mf* *mp*

94 95 96 97 98

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

A. Cl.

B. Cl.

1  
A. Saxes

2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

1  
Trbs.

2

Euph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

Ratchet

99 100 101 102 103



Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

A. Cl.

B. Cl.

1  
A. Saxes

2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

1  
Trbs.

2

Buph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

*f*

*sfz*

*Glissando*

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118

Fl. *ff* *p* *div.*

Ob. *ff* *p*

Bsn. *ff* *p*

Cls. 1 *ff* *p*

2 *ff* *mp*

A. Cl. *ff* *p*

B. Cl. *ff* *p*

A. Saxes 1 *ff* *mp*

2 *ff* *mp*

T. Sax. *ff* *p*

Bar. Sax. *ff* *p*

118

Tpts. 1 *ff* *p*

2 *ff* *p*

Hn. *ff* *mp*

Trbs. 1 *ff* *p*

2 *ff* *p*

Euph. *ff* *p*

Tuba *ff* *p*

Xylo. *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff*

Perc. 2 *ff* *mf* *Ratchet*

Timp. *ff* *mf* *Cabasa dampen* *mf* *normal*

*dampen* *w/both hands*

114 115 116 117 118 119

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