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Halcyon Nights for orchestra

Robert Gross

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Instrumentation

Flute 1 & 2
Piccolo
Oboe 1 & 2
English Horn
Clarinet in B-1 & 2
Bass Clarinet in B
Passoon 1 & 2
Contrabassoon
Horn in F 1-4
Trumpet in C 1 & 2
Trombone 1 & 2
Bass Trombone
Tuba
Timpani
Percussion 1-2
Snare, vibraphone, bass drum, large gong, suspended cymbal, xylophone, marimba, glockenspiel Glockenspiel notated two octaves below sounding pitch
Harp
Bland Little of the
Piano doubling Celesta
Strings
Piccolo notated an octave below sounding pitch Contrabassoon notated an octave above sounding pitch Contrabass notated an octave below sounding pitch

Score in C Duration: 8'30"

RICE UNIVERSITY HALCYON NIGHTS

by

ROBERT GROSS

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE MASTER OF MUSIC

APPROVED, THESIS COMMITTEE:

Arthur Gottschalk, Chairman Associate Professor of Composition and Theory

Ellsworth Milburn
Professor of Composition and Theory

Richard Lavenda

Associate Professor of Composition

and Theory

ABSTRACT

Halcyon Nights

by

Robert Gross

Halcyon Nights is a one-movement piece for orchestra, ca. 9', in five-part arch-form with two inserted sections: A B C B' <fugue> A' <coda>. The piece opens with an English horn solo, from which a great deal of cellular musical ideas, with broad-scale formal ramifications, are derived. This set of gestures and two other fundamental musical ideas form the basis of most of the material comprising the piece. The tonal centers of the different sections reflect a prolongation of one of these basic cells. Therefore, the piece is highly constructivist in its design. The surface, however, is interchangeably tranquil and bouncy, with some small hints of jazz and large doses of hemiola: an aural reflection on the halcyon late nights of Houston (during many of which, fittingly enough, the piece was written).

Halcyon Nights ĩ ĩ ĵ î



CASER



















































































