

PIERCE GRADONE

KEEP THE BALANCE
ON A BACK CURVE

for alto saxophone

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**KEEP THE BALANCE
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PERFORMANCE NOTES

quarter tone sharp

three quarter tones sharp

♭ quarter tone flat

♭♭ three quarter tones flat

♭ slightly flat



Percussive key click

f

Dynamic with which to play key click, not resultant sound



Pizzicato (tongue)

TC tr

Tone color trill

①

②

Alternate between fingerings on a single pitch

All multiphonics, including numbers and fingerings, are derived from *The Techniques of Saxophone Playing* by Marcus Weiss and Giorgio Netti (Barenreiter, 2010)

Duration: ca. 7 minutes.

Transposed score.

Commissioned by Katherine Weintraub

**Sunfighters locked in right angle rooms
Watch their lovers sleep face down in the yellow light
Keep the balance on a back curve
'Till the war with the night is over**

Fat Mama Kick
Scott Walker

for Katherine Weintraub

KEEP THE BALANCE ON A BACK CURVE

for alto saxophone

PIERCE GRADONE

(2018)

Continuous and flowing, almost swung ($\text{♩} = 104$)

5 $\text{♩} + 5 \text{ ♩}$

f assertive

pp maximal contrast!

f *pp*

4

f *fp* *f*

5 $\text{♩} + 4 \text{ ♩}$

3

7

4

pp *f* *subito p*

3 $\text{♩} + 4 \text{ ♩}$

2:3

11

pp *f*

5

3 $\text{♩} + 4 \text{ ♩}$

5

5

14

pp *p* *pp* *f*

17 $3 \text{ ♩} + 2 \text{ ♩}$ 3 5 $5 \text{ ♩} + 4 \text{ ♩}$ 3 percussive staccato 4

fp *f*

20 5 $3 \text{ ♩} + 4 \text{ ♩}$ 5 16 16

fp *pp*

24 3 f p pp mp pp mf pp

f *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp*

28 3 5 f p f *rit.*

f *p* *f* *rit.*

30 with percussive keyclicks $4/4$ $3/4$ *pp*

pp

32 *fp* *f* *pp* *p*

◆ notehead indicates a quieter ghost note

35 *f* *p* *f*

non vib. quasi rubato non vib.

vib.

37 *f* *pp*

vib.

non vib.

40 *f* *p* *pp*

non vib.

35b

44 *f* *pp* *mp* *pp* *f*

flz.

non vib.

47 *pp* *p* *pp*

vib.

50 *mp* *p* *p* *mf* *f* *p* rit. $\bullet = 94$ 4

53 *acc.* $\bullet = 104$

57 *f* *p* *f* *p*

61 *f*

FOR PEARSON'S ONLY

staccato notes should be slightly longer
than before and more resonant

♩ = 96

63 *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp*

65 *pp* *f* *f* *p* *mf*

68 *p* *mf* *mp* *mf*

72 *f* *p* *mp* *p* *f*

With a slight groove

75 *fp* *f* *fp*

78 *mf* *p* *f* *fp* *f* *p* *mf*

quasi rubato

2 ♩ + 3 ♩

♩ = 92

81 *p* *fp* *f*

Slower, more relaxed (♩ = 88)

84 *mf p* *mf p* *p*

p lyrical, bring out line of upper notes

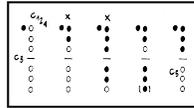
Tempo I (♩ = 104)

87 *p* *fp*

91 *f* *p* *mf* *fp* *mf* *p* *mf*

95 *fp* *mf* *mf* *p* *mf* *fp*

99 *mf* *p* *mf* *fp* *mf* *mf* *p* *mf*



no particular order for fingerings
repetition should waver in pitcher

102

p *mf* *fp* *f*

104

p *f* *p*

108

ff *ff* *f* *mf* *f*

111

p *ff*

114

ff

116 $3 \text{ ♩} + 2 \text{ ♩}$

119

121

c_1 ♩ = 94

(78a)

subtone

p *pp*

accel

♩ = 104

126

f

128

p *mf* *p* *f*

(71)

131

p *mp* *p* *f* *p* *f*

(75b)

135 $\text{♩} = 96$

f *p* *f* *p*

138

f *fp* *f* *mp* *f* *p*

141

mf *fp* *f* *p* *fp* *f* *fp*

144 $\text{♩} = 92$

f *p* *mf* *f*

148

f *p* *f* *f*

152

f *p* *f* *f*

growl growl growl

156

160

164

168

Sparse, giving color to each note (♩ = 96)

172

176

180 *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *f* *mf*

183 *f* *p* *mf* *ff* *f* *p*

186 *mf* *mp* *f* *p* *mf* *pp*

190 *mf* *f*

194 *flz.* *mf* *ff*

198 *slight growl* *ord.* *p* *f*

202

35b

non vib.

growl

ord.

229 $\overbrace{3}$ $\overbrace{2 \text{ ♩} + 3 \text{ ♩}}$ $\overbrace{3}$ $\overbrace{3 \text{ ♩} + 2 \text{ ♩}}$

p *p* *pp* *mf* *p*

234 $\overbrace{3}$ $\overbrace{3 \text{ ♩} + 2 \text{ ♩}}$ $\overbrace{3}$ $\overbrace{3 \text{ ♩} + 2 \text{ ♩}}$

p *mp* *pp* *p* *p* *pp*

◆ notehead indicates a quieter ghost note

239 $\overbrace{3}$

p *mf* *pp* *pp* *p* *mf* *p* *p* *mp*

242 **Growing in intensity**

pp *mp* *mf* *pp* *p* *mf* *mf* *p < mp* *pp* *mf*

246

p < mp *pp* *mp* *p < mp* *pp* *p* *< mf* *p*

249 **accel**

p < mf *pp*

(accel)

252

Tempo I (♩ = 104)

255

ff very articulate

258

261

265

269

271 $5 \text{ ♩} + 4 \text{ ♩}$

5

4

275 $4 \text{ ♩} + 3 \text{ ♩}$

4

3

6

3

279

3

5

9

282

2

3

9

p

285

9

3

7

288 $2 \text{ ♩} + 2 \text{ ♩} + 3 \text{ ♩}$

1 2

1 2

1 2

1 2

1 2

1 2 1

f

fff

sing/play

TC tr