

# **A Little Poem**

## **for Concert Band**



**Bill Robinson**

# **A Little Poem for Concert Band**

Duration: about 5 minutes 30 seconds  
Theme from 2004; composed March 9-31, 2015

In 1990 I wrote several works for my friend Fred Robinson who was the composer/arranger at Warner Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. Among these was a work for jazz band, *The Popular Music of Planet X* in three "Books". The idea was the rather whimsical one that somewhere among the myriad planets there could be a civilization where the prime incentive for the music industry was *not mercenary*. Clearly such a planet must be far far away. The Air Force didn't seem to appreciate the effort, and the score and parts were returned. (When you bomb with the Air Force....you *REALLY BOMB!*)

In 2004 I made many major alterations to the old *PMPX*, and had a brand new version, including *A Little Poem*. This remained unperformed, so in 2015 I arranged it for concert band. Finally, in 2023 I converted most of the band *PMPX* to a piano quintet, and then to orchestra as *Symphony No. 1: Popular Music of Planet X*. I now offer the four band movements of *PMPX* only as individual pieces, including this work.

## Performance Notes

This work uses one musician per part, except clarinets and flutes, for which I use "solo" and "tutti" as needed. The String Bass part is intended for an acoustic bass. An electric bass may not be used in its stead. If an electronic keyboard is used instead of an acoustic piano, it should have a concert grand piano sound. However, the preference is strongly in favor of a real piano. The second alto saxophone has only a few measures of music, and in a pinch his part can be played by clarinets. Accidentals hold through the measure and not beyond. This is a C score with the usual transpositions in the parts.

*Cover; Neem Karoli Baba with two devotees.*

# **Bill Robinson**

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**Largo** (♩ = 40)

1 Piccolo

1 Flute

2 Flute

1 Oboe

2 Oboe

2 Bassoons

1 Clarinet in B $\flat$

2 Clarinet in B $\flat$

3 Clarinet in B $\flat$

Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$

2 Eb Alto Saxophones

B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone

E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone

1 Horn in F

2 Horn in F

3 Horn in F

4 Horn in F

2 Trumpets in B $\flat$

1 Trombone

2 Trombone

2 Trombones

BTbn.

Euphonium

2 Tubas

Timpani

1 Piano

String Bass

A Little Poem

This page of the musical score, titled "A Little Poem", covers measures 10 through 16. The instrumentation includes Piccolo, Flute 1, Oboe 1 and 2, Bassoon, Clarinet 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bassoon Saxophone, Horns 1-4, Trumpet 1, Trombone 1 and 2, Euphonium, Tuba 1 and 2, Snare Drum, Piano, and Subcontrabass. The score is written in a key signature of two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The dynamic marking *p* (piano) is used throughout. The Piccolo and Flute 1 parts feature melodic lines with slurs and ties. The Oboe 1 and 2 parts have a solo section in measure 16. The Saxophone section includes a melodic line for the Alto Saxophone and a bass line for the Tenor and Bassoon Saxophones. The Horns and Trumpets provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns. The Percussion section includes the Snare Drum and Subcontrabass. The Piano part features a complex rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and ties. The Subcontrabass part has a melodic line with slurs and ties. The score is divided into systems, with measures 10-16 shown. The page number "16" is in the top right corner.





A Little Poem

34 35

Bn. 1 *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Bn. 2 *mf+* *f* (tutti)

Cl. 1 *f* (tutti)

Cl. 2 *f*

Alto 1 Sax. *mf*

Ten. Sax. *mf*

Hn. 1

4 Hn. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f* *f dim.*

Tbn. 2 *f*

BTbn. *mp* *mf* *cresc.* *f* *f* *mf*

Euph. *f* *f dim.*

Tuba 1 *mp* *f dim.*

Tuba 2 *mp* *mf* *f* *f dim.* *mf*

SB *mp* *mf* *cresc.* *f* *f dim.*

40 42 *rit.* *a tempo* (solo) *pp* *cresc.*

Fl. 1 *pp* *cresc.*

Ob. 1 *pp* *cresc.*

Cl. 1 (solo) *p* *pp* *cresc.*

Alto 1 Sax. *mp*

Ten. Sax. *mp* *p* *pp* *cresc.*

Bari. Sax. *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

Tbn. 1 *(mf)* *(mp)* *p* *pp*

Euph. *(mf)* *(mp)* *p*

Tuba 1 *(mf)* *mp*

SB *(mf)* *(mp)* *p*

A Little Poem

This page of the musical score, titled "A Little Poem", contains measures 46 through 50. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with the following parts and dynamics:

- Flutes (Fl.):** Part 1 starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Part 2 is silent until measure 50, where it joins the *tutti* section with a dynamic of *f* (forte).
- Oboes (Ob.):** Part 1 starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *mp*. Part 2 is silent until measure 50, where it joins the *tutti* section with a dynamic of *f*.
- Bassoons (Bn.):** Part 1 starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *p*, then *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *f* from measure 48. Part 2 is silent until measure 50, where it joins the *tutti* section with a dynamic of *f*.
- Clarinets (Cl.):** Part 1 starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *p*, then *mf*, and *f* from measure 48. Part 2 is silent until measure 50, where it joins the *tutti* section with a dynamic of *f*. Part 3 is silent until measure 50, where it joins the *tutti* section with a dynamic of *f*.
- Bass Clarinet (BCL):** Silent until measure 50, where it joins the *tutti* section with a dynamic of *f*.
- Tenorsaxophone (Ten. Sax.):** Starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *mp*, then *f* from measure 48.
- Bari. Saxophone (Bari. Sax.):** Starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *mp*, then *mf*, and *f* from measure 48.
- Horn (Hn. 4):** Starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *f*.
- Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2):** Silent until measure 50, where it plays *f assez*.
- Tuba:** Part 1 is silent until measure 50, where it plays *f*. Part 2 starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *mf*, then *f* from measure 48.
- Piano (Pno.):** Starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *f*. Includes performance markings *scd* and *\**.
- Sub Bass (SB):** Starts at measure 46 with a dynamic of *f*.

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic hairpins. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4 at measure 48 and back to 3/4 at measure 50. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor).

A Little Poem

52

rit. -----

51

Picc. *pp* (solo)

1 Fl. *pp* (solo)

2 Fl. *pp* (solo)

1 Ob. *pp* (solo)

2 Ob. *pp*

2 Bn. *pp*

1 Cl. 2 *pp* (solo)

3 Cl. *pp*

BCL. *pp*

Alto 1 Sax. *f*

Ten. Sax. *f*

Bari. Sax. *f*

1 Hn. *pp*

3 Hn. *f*

4 Hn. *p* (solo) *> pp*

1 Tpt. *f*

2 Tpt. *f*

2 Tbn. *f*

BTbn. *f*

Euph. *f*

2 Tubas *f* 1. *p* *> pp*

Timp. *f*

Pno. *p* *sfz*

SB *f* *p* *> pp*