

Peter McKenzie Armstrong

(Arr.)

Chord

for Mr. Woodshed

piano 6 hands

2016

Edition Ottaviano Petrucci

NOTES

An acquaintance of mine, a woodshed, I am privileged to address as "Mister". Each Winter his owner orders delivered to his door a cord of cedar. I determined this season to give him something like that too.

This score quotes it from my *Flipidodes* (2015), which consisted entirely of 12-tone, all-interval chords with two additional constraints: the tritone was their center interval, and their upper &/or lower hexachords were invertible. The inversions, M5 transforms and interval-wise complements aside, there are three such entities.

From those, for this piece, I have commandeered the one whose ascent most graphically evokes the image of "going up in smoke":



Given such an image, I intuit, meaningful performance would best be short on convenience. Accordingly, the extreme ranges are assigned to the center player (II), while the inner ranges devolve – albeit tangled – to the outer players (I & III). These latter may sit, negotiating relative near-arm positions; Player II however, for that reason, is urged to stand.

– PMA

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Heatedly; hold on as long as it sounds - - - - -

The musical score is divided into three sections, each with a bracketed group of staves:

- I Seated:** Consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a dynamic marking of *ff*. The lower staff has a treble clef and a dynamic marking of *ff*. Above the upper staff, there is a chord symbol: a circle with a sharp sign and the number 8, indicating a sharp octave chord.
- II Standing:** Consists of four staves. The upper two staves have treble clefs and a dynamic marking of *fff*. The lower two staves have bass clefs and a dynamic marking of *fff*. Above the upper staff, there is a chord symbol: a circle with a sharp sign and the number 8, indicating a sharp octave chord.
- III Seated:** Consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a dynamic marking of *ff*. The lower staff has a bass clef and a dynamic marking of *ff*. Above the upper staff, there is a chord symbol: a circle with a sharp sign and the number 8, indicating a sharp octave chord.

* No single chord is copyrightable, and PMA did not invent this one.
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