

W. Jay Sydeman

Trio
for Oboe, Violin and Guitar
(c. 1994)

Trio for Oboe, Violin and Guitar was written in Nevada City, commissioned by the guitarist ... A lovely duet between the upper instruments, with the guitar filling the surrounding harmonies, albeit in a gentle contrapuntal manner.

– W. Jay Sydeman, August 2012

W. Jay Sydeman's life mirrors the breadth and variety of his music. Born in New York in 1928 and educated at Manhattan's Mannes School of Music, he quickly became one of the most sought-after and honored composers of his generation, receiving commissions from such prestigious groups as the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the Tanglewood Music Center, and the Boston Symphony, which premiered his orchestral work in memory of John F. Kennedy in 1966. "Sydeman uses a whole battery of far out techniques," wrote the *New York Times*, "but he has an uncanny ability to throw in the whole avant-garde machinery as if it were the simplest, most normal way of making music in the world ... More than many of his colleagues, he seems to know what will sound well, and he works for some remarkably attractive, pure textures. His sounds seem to grow from a physical sense of exactly what material is right."

In 1970, after a heady period that included awards from the National Institute of Arts and Letters, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Library of Congress, Sydeman left New York – and composition – to begin a journey of personal and artistic exploration.

"Around 1980," he has written, "I returned to composition – at first a large number of choral works which reconnected me to the source of all music – the human voice. Out of this new lyric impulse have evolved all of my works since that time – more romantic, more accessible. I create music for the musician."

– Howard Hersh,
Artistic Director of "Music Now"

Sydeman is a member of Nevada County Composers Cooperative, a composers' group in Nevada City annually producing the "Wet Ink Festival of New Music." He now lives in Mendocino.

Duration: circa 1:30

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Trio

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Andante ♩ = c. 80

Ob *mp* molto rubato

Vln *p* molto rubato

Gtr *p* legato, molto rubato

5 A *allarg.---*

9 *a tempo* *allarg.--*

p

mf

13 *a tempo*

B

intense

mp dolce

p sub.

p sub.

17

21

C Poco più mosso ♩ = c. 100

24

24 25 26 27 28

p *p* *p sub.*

Measures 24-28 of the 'Poco più mosso' section. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first staff features a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff has a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff has a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The dynamics are *p* (piano) for measures 24-25, *p* for measure 26, and *p sub.* (piano subito) for measures 27-28.

Tempo I ♩ = c. 80

29

29 30 31

mp

Measures 29-31 of the 'Tempo I' section. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The first staff features a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff has a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff has a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The dynamics are *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 29-31.

32

32 33 34

Measures 32-34 of the 'Tempo I' section. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The first staff features a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff has a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff has a melody with a half note, a dotted half note, and a half note, followed by a triplet of eighth notes.

D

35

Section D consists of measures 35, 36, and 37. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 35 is in common time (C). Measures 36 and 37 are in 3/4 time. The score is written for three staves. The first staff contains a melodic line with various ornaments and slurs. The second staff contains a similar melodic line with some rests. The third staff contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The section ends with a repeat sign.

38

Section D continues with measures 38, 39, and 40. The key signature changes to three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Measure 38 is in common time (C). Measures 39 and 40 are in 3/4 time. The first staff features a melodic line with a long slur. The second staff has a similar melodic line. The third staff continues the bass line. The section ends with a repeat sign.

E

41

rit. -----

Section E begins at measure 41 and continues through measures 42, 43, 44, and 45. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Measure 41 is in common time (C). Measures 42, 43, and 44 are in 3/4 time. Measure 45 is in common time (C). The first staff has a melodic line with a long slur. The second staff has a similar melodic line. The third staff continues the bass line. The section ends with a repeat sign.