

# W. Jay Sydeman

## **Trio**

for Oboe, Violin and Harp  
(c. 1994)



Transcription of *Trio for Oboe, Violin and Guitar* by the composer. Program notes for the original work:

*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

for Oboe, Violin and Harp

W. Jay Sydeman  
(c. 1994)

Andante ♩ = c. 80

The musical score is written for Oboe (Ob), Violin (Vln), and Harp (Hp) in 3/4 time. The tempo is Andante, with a metronome marking of ♩ = c. 80. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into three systems of four measures each.

**System 1 (Measures 1-4):**

- Ob:** Measure 1 is a whole rest. Measure 2 begins with a half note F#4, followed by a half note G#4. Measure 3 has a half note A4, followed by a half note B4. Measure 4 has a half note C5, followed by a half note B4.
- Vln:** Measure 1 has a half note F#4, followed by a half note G#4. Measure 2 has a half note A4, followed by a half note B4. Measure 3 has a half note C5, followed by a half note B4. Measure 4 has a half note A4, followed by a half note G#4.
- Hp:** Measure 1 has a half note F#3, followed by a half note G#3. Measure 2 has a half note A3, followed by a half note B3. Measure 3 has a half note C4, followed by a half note B3. Measure 4 has a half note A3, followed by a half note G#3.

**System 2 (Measures 5-8):**

- Ob:** Measure 5 has a half note C5, followed by a half note B4. Measure 6 has a half note A4, followed by a half note G#4. Measure 7 has a half note F#4, followed by a half note E4. Measure 8 has a half note D4, followed by a half note C4.
- Vln:** Measure 5 has a half note C5, followed by a half note B4. Measure 6 has a half note A4, followed by a half note G#4. Measure 7 has a half note F#4, followed by a half note E4. Measure 8 has a half note D4, followed by a half note C4.
- Hp:** Measure 5 has a half note F#3, followed by a half note G#3. Measure 6 has a half note A3, followed by a half note B3. Measure 7 has a half note C4, followed by a half note B3. Measure 8 has a half note A3, followed by a half note G#3.

**System 3 (Measures 9-12):**

- Ob:** Measure 9 has a half note C5, followed by a half note B4. Measure 10 has a half note A4, followed by a half note G#4. Measure 11 has a half note F#4, followed by a half note E4. Measure 12 has a half note D4, followed by a half note C4.
- Vln:** Measure 9 has a half note C5, followed by a half note B4. Measure 10 has a half note A4, followed by a half note G#4. Measure 11 has a half note F#4, followed by a half note E4. Measure 12 has a half note D4, followed by a half note C4.
- Hp:** Measure 9 has a half note F#3, followed by a half note G#3. Measure 10 has a half note A3, followed by a half note B3. Measure 11 has a half note C4, followed by a half note B3. Measure 12 has a half note A3, followed by a half note G#3.

Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *p* (piano). Performance instructions include *molto rubato*, *legato, molto rubato*, *a tempo*, and *allarg.---*. A rehearsal mark 'A' is placed above measure 7. Trills and triplets are indicated in measures 7 and 8.

13 *a tempo*

**B**

*intense*

*mp dolce*

*p sub.*

*p sub.*

17

21

C

Poco più mosso ♩ = c. 100

24

*p*

*p*

*p sub.*

Tempo I ♩ = c. 80

29

*mp*

32

*mp*

**D**

35

Musical score for section D, measures 35-37. The score is written for three staves: two treble staves and one grand staff (treble and bass). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is common time (C). The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and various articulations such as slurs, ties, and accents. The tempo is marked with a 'rit.' (ritardando) above the first staff.

38

Musical score for section D, measures 38-40. The score is written for three staves: two treble staves and one grand staff (treble and bass). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is common time (C). The music continues with complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and various articulations such as slurs, ties, and accents. The tempo is marked with a 'rit.' (ritardando) above the first staff.

**E**

41

*rit.*

Musical score for section E, measures 41-43. The score is written for three staves: two treble staves and one grand staff (treble and bass). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is common time (C). The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and various articulations such as slurs, ties, and accents. The tempo is marked with a 'rit.' (ritardando) above the first staff.