

W. Jay Sydeman

The Community of the Forest
for Flute, Oboe and Bass Clarinet
(c. 1985)



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: I. Poco allegro – circa 3:15
 II. Quasi-dance – circa 4:15
 III. Allegro – circa 4:00

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I.

Poco allegro $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 112$

Fl

Ob

BCl in B_b

A

11

13

B

18

22

24

mf

mp

mf

mf

p

ff

26

p

pp

p

p

p

pp

f

C

29

p

p

mf

mp

mf

p

p

31

mf

pp

f

f

p

33

p

p

pp

35

pp

mp

6

p

37

p

p

6

6

#

39

pp

mp

6

p

41

p

p

pp

43

pp

mp

mf

6

45

D

mf

p

mfp

49

dim. - - -

p

54

E

59

F

63

II.

Quasi-dance $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 116$

12

3

mf

p

5

3

5

6

p

5

5

5

3

mp

3

3

pp

3

22 *accel.* ----- 8

(senza dim.)

26 C *a tempo* 12 8
pp 12 mp 3 8
f p 3 8

28 3 8 2 4 5 3 8
mf 6 6 mf 5
pp 3 5 3 6 3 5 3 8

32 5 3 5 3 6 3 5 3 8
p mp 3 5 3 6 3 5 3 8
pp 3 5 3 6 3 5 3 8

D

35

ff

p

3 3 3 3 3 3

38

p

pp

3 3 3 3 3 3

41

p

p

ff

3 3 p ppp 3 ff 3 ff 3 ff

E

44

12

pp mp 12 pp mp 12

3

p

46

mf 12 *pp* 12 *f*

3 8 2

pp 3 8 2

49

f 12 *mp* 6 *f* *p*

mf 12 *mp*

F

52

12

mp 12 3

54

p 5 5 *p* 3 5

3 3 12

56

58

60

62

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

72

f

p cresc.

f

p cresc.

f

ppp

mp

f

($\text{d} = \text{e}$)

G

p

p

mp waltz

86

waltz
tr
mp

92

4 4 4 4 4 4

H

98

p sub.
p
p

104

poco meno mosso
p
p

110

accel. ----- I *a tempo*

116

f *p* *pp* *p*

121

p *ppp* *ppp* *p* *p*

III.

Allegro $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 138$

5 **A** *slower* *accel.* - - - - -

12 *a tempo*

19

rit.----- **B** *a tempo*

p

p

ff

p

26

33

accel.-----

C

a tempo

40

mp

mp

mf

faster

46

faster still

52

accel.

D

a tempo

57

G.P.

61

E

66

72

75

78

81

84

87

90

93

96

99

102

106 *slower* *accel.* -----

113 ----- *a tempo*

120

G

124

127

H

ff

pp

pp

131

pp

pp

135

I

138

141

144

147

150

153

156

159