

Music Starts When Words Leave Off

Stuff Smith's Unfinished Concerto

Stuff Smith, violin

Dave Soldier, orchestra

version for solo violin, string orchestra, and piano

A $\text{♩} = 136$

Piano *f* *mp*

Pno. *mf* *mp*

8va *Red.*

Stuff Smith home recorded an unfinished Concerto in Los Angeles around 1963 or 1964.

For safe-keeping he sent a poorly recorded tape to his friends Mary Lee and Don Hester of Arlington who sent it to Anthony Barnett in the 1990s. I transcribed the violin part and have written an accompanying part for string orchestra and piano. There is a violin/piano duo version, and I will prepare one for full orchestra.

-Dave Soldier, August, 2-17 New York City

for the soloists: the gliss in part B is Stuff's transformation of a phrase by his friend, Fritz Kreisler. Stuff's message to us is to play your own way. Listen to his recording, and then find a way to play this that YOU would want to listen to.

17

Pno.

pp *p* *mf*

20

Pno.

f *ff* *mf* *rit.*

B

Pno.

mp *rubato*

C $\text{♩} = 108 **D** *meno mosso* $\text{♩} = 80$ free pedal & attacks: shimmering chords$

Pno.

mp

45

Pno.

cresc.

E

very freely, improvisational
a tempo dreamy

Musical notation for section E, measures 58-61. Treble and bass staves with piano (*p*) dynamic and triplet markings.

F

like a bell a tempo with determination

Musical notation for section F, measures 62-68. Treble and bass staves with piano (*p*) dynamic and various rhythmic patterns.

G

♩=108

Musical notation for section G, measures 69-75. Treble and bass staves with mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and triplet markings.

H

♩=180

Musical notation for section H, measures 86-89. Treble and bass staves with fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic and complex rhythmic patterns.

90

tr

Musical notation for section H, measures 90-93. Treble and bass staves with fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic and triplet markings.

K

♩=180

114

Pno.

3

mf

mp

accel.

3

3

122

Pno.

f

♩=210

L

127

Pno.

f

133

Pno.

f

140

Pno.

mf

8va

♩=126

Pno.

143

Pno.

cadaneza free tempo

M ♩=160 10

N ♩=160 10

mp

f

146

Pno.

161

Pno.

rubato

O ♩=136

f

mf

164

Pno.

168

Pno.

172

Pno.

175

f

Pno.

179

Pno.

183

P ♩ = 80

Pno.

188

mf ♩ = 120

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193

rit. much slower

cresc. cued cutoff

Pno.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a grand staff brace on the left. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score begins at measure 193. The tempo is marked 'rit. much slower'. The music features a series of chords and melodic lines. A dynamic marking of 'pp' (pianissimo) is present in the final measures. The piece concludes with a double bar line and the instruction 'improvise until cutoff' below the staff.

pp

improvise until cutoff

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f

f

removed a beat from original

mf

rit.

B $\text{♩}=80$

mp *f*

rubato glissando in minor thirds

accel.

mf

C $\text{♩}=108$ *firmly* *rit.*

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D *meno mosso* $\text{♩} = 80$ *dolce cantabile*
mf *f* *mp*

45 *rit. cresc.* **E** *a tempo*
mf

52 *dreamy*

59 *rubato*
espress. *mf*

F *a tempo* *with determination*
p *f*

G *pizz.* *accel.* $\text{♩} = 108$
ff

81 *arco*
mf

84 *pizz. freely* *arco*
mf

H *swing* $\text{♩} = 180$
ff

93 *ff*

97 I $\text{♩} = 96$
 Musical notation for measures 97-100. Features triplets and a *fff* dynamic marking.

101 Musical notation for measures 101-104. Includes triplets and a *rit.* marking.

105 *accel.* *rit.* J $\text{♩} = 80$ *rubato*
 Musical notation for measures 105-110. Includes triplets and dynamic markings.

111 *8va* - gliss descending in two bows per note *fast* *cadenza free tempo*
 Musical notation for measures 111-115. Includes a glissando and a *f* dynamic marking.

116 K $\text{♩} = 180$
 Musical notation for measures 116-118. Includes a quintuplet and a *f* dynamic marking.

119 *accel.* $\text{♩} = 210$
 Musical notation for measures 119-128. Includes triplets and dynamic markings *mp* and *f*.

L
 Musical notation for measures 129-133. Features triplets.

129 Musical notation for measures 129-133. Includes triplets and *sfz* dynamic markings.

134 Musical notation for measures 134-138. Features triplets and *sfz* dynamic markings.

139 $\text{♩} = 126$
 Musical notation for measures 139-143. Includes triplets and a *sfz* dynamic marking.

145 *cadaneza free tempo* **M** *fierce* ♩=160
f *mp* *mf*

151 *f* **N**

157 ♩=160 *ff*

161 *rubato*

163 *rubato*

O ♩=136 *swing* *f*

172 *tr*

177 *f* **P**

183 *straight feel like beginning* ♩=80 *mf* ♩=120

189 *much slower* *rit.* *cued cutoff*

194 *cresc.* *pp*

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Dave Soldier, orchestra

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A $\text{♩} = 136$ version for solo violin, string orchestra, and piano

B $\text{♩} = 80$

Stuff Smith home recorded an unfinished Concerto in Los Angeles around 1963 or 1964. For safe-keeping he sent a poorly recorded tape to his friends Mary Lee and Don Hester of Arlington who sent it to Anthony Barnett in the 1990s. I transcribed the violin part and have written an accompanying part for string orchestra and piano. There is a violin/piano duo version, and I will prepare one for full orchestra.
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68

G *mf*

pizz. *3* *accel.* *3* *3* *3* *mf* *♩=108*

78

82

H *mf* *♩=180* *pizz.*

93 *arco* **I** *ff* *3* *3* *fff* *accel.* *rit.* *♩=96*

100

J *mp* *mf* *f* *♩=80* **K** *♩=180*

119 *accel.* **L** *♩=210*

♩=126

137

Musical staff 137-143. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 137: whole rest. Measure 138: whole note. Measure 139: whole rest. Measure 140: whole note. Measure 141: eighth notes. Measure 142: eighth notes. Measure 143: eighth notes. Dynamics: *mf*.

144

Musical staff 144-155. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 144: eighth notes. Measure 145: eighth notes. Measure 146: whole rest. Measure 147: whole rest. Measure 148: triplet of eighth notes. Measure 149: triplet of eighth notes. Measure 150: triplet of eighth notes. Measure 151: triplet of eighth notes. Measure 152: triplet of eighth notes. Measure 153: triplet of eighth notes. Measure 154: triplet of eighth notes. Measure 155: eighth notes. Dynamics: *f* > *p*, *mf*. Markings: *cadaneza free tempo*, **M**, $\text{♩}=160$.

156

Musical staff 156-161. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 156: eighth notes. Measure 157: eighth notes. Measure 158: eighth notes. Measure 159: eighth notes. Measure 160: eighth notes. Measure 161: eighth notes. Dynamics: *f*. Markings: **N**, $\text{♩}=160$.

162

Musical staff 162-177. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 162: eighth notes. Measure 163: eighth notes. Measure 164: eighth notes. Measure 165: eighth notes. Measure 166: eighth notes. Measure 167: eighth notes. Measure 168: eighth notes. Measure 169: eighth notes. Measure 170: eighth notes. Measure 171: eighth notes. Measure 172: eighth notes. Measure 173: eighth notes. Measure 174: eighth notes. Measure 175: eighth notes. Measure 176: eighth notes. Measure 177: eighth notes. Dynamics: *f*. Markings: *rubato*, **O**, $\text{♩}=136$, 10.

178

Musical staff 178-182. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 178: eighth notes. Measure 179: eighth notes. Measure 180: eighth notes. Measure 181: eighth notes. Measure 182: eighth notes. Dynamics: *mf*. Markings: **P**, $\text{♩}=80$.

183

Musical staff 183-188. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 183: eighth notes. Measure 184: eighth notes. Measure 185: eighth notes. Measure 186: eighth notes. Measure 187: eighth notes. Measure 188: eighth notes. Dynamics: *mf*. Markings: $\text{♩}=120$, 2.

189

Musical staff 189-193. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 189: eighth notes. Measure 190: eighth notes. Measure 191: eighth notes. Measure 192: eighth notes. Measure 193: eighth notes. Dynamics: *mf*. Markings: *rit.*

194

Musical staff 194-199. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 194: eighth notes. Measure 195: eighth notes. Measure 196: eighth notes. Measure 197: eighth notes. Measure 198: eighth notes. Measure 199: eighth notes. Dynamics: *pp*. Markings: *much slower*, *cresc.*, **cued cutoff**.

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A ♩=136

p

5

mf

11

mp

17

pp p p mf f ff pp

24

rit. **B** ♩=80 *pizz. accel.* **C** ♩=108 *arco*

p p

35

rit. **D** *meno mosso* ♩=80 *div: one as written, partner artificial harmonic (2 octaves higher)*

mf pp p

43

p *rit.*

E *a tempo dreamy*

pp *solo* *mf*

59

rubato *Unis.* **F** *a tempo*

p

66 *with determination*

Musical staff 66-72: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 66-72. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 66-70), *f* (measures 71-72). A fermata is placed over the final note of measure 72.

Musical staff 73-77: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 73: **G** box, *mf*, *pizz.*. Measures 74-77: *f*, *accel.*, triplets. Tempo: ♩=108.

Musical staff 78-82: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 78-82: *f*, triplets.

Musical staff 83-87: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 83-87: *f*, triplets. Measure 87 ends with a double bar line and a change to 2/4 time signature.

Musical staff 88-94: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 88: **H** box, ♩=180, 10-measure rest. Measure 89: *ff*, *arco*, triplet. Measure 90: **I** box, ♩=96, 3-measure rest. Measure 91: 2/4 time signature, rest. Measure 92: 4/4 time signature, rest. Measures 93-94: *fff*, triplets.

Musical staff 95-104: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 95: *accel.*. Measure 96: *rit.*. Measure 97: triplet. Measure 98: 2/4 time signature, triplet. Measure 99: 4/4 time signature, triplet. Measure 100: ♩=80, *rubato*. Measure 101: *f*. Measure 102: *mp*. Measure 103: rest. Measure 104: rest.

Musical staff 105-111: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 105: **J** box, 4-measure rest. Measure 106: *mf*, 4-measure rest. Measure 107: **K** box, ♩=180, 2-measure rest. Measure 108: *accel.*, 2-measure rest. Measure 109: *f*, *pizz.*, ♩=210. Measure 110: 2-measure rest. Measure 111: 2-measure rest.

Musical staff 112-122: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 112: **L** box, 4-measure rest. Measure 113: 4-measure rest. Measure 114: 4-measure rest. Measure 115: 4-measure rest. Measure 116: 4-measure rest. Measure 117: 4-measure rest. Measure 118: 4-measure rest. Measure 119: 4-measure rest. Measure 120: 4-measure rest. Measure 121: 4-measure rest. Measure 122: 4-measure rest.

Musical staff 123-129: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 123: 4-measure rest. Measure 124: 4-measure rest. Measure 125: 4-measure rest. Measure 126: 4-measure rest. Measure 127: 4-measure rest. Measure 128: 4-measure rest. Measure 129: 4-measure rest. Dynamics: *f*, *solo*, *arco tutti*, *ff*.

136 $\text{♩} = 126$

f *ff* *f* *ff* *mf*

143 *cadaneza free tempo*

mf *f* *p* *pp*

M $\text{♩} = 160$

p

156 **N** $\text{♩} = 160$

f

163 *rubato* **O** $\text{♩} = 136$

p

175 **2** *f*

f

182 **P** $\text{♩} = 80$

mf

188 $\text{♩} = 120$ *Div.*

mf

194 *much slower* *cresc.* *rit.* **cued cutoff**

pp

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59 *rubato* *solo* Unis.
mf *pp*

64 **F** *a tempo* *with determination*
p *f*

71 **G** *pizz.* *col legno*
mf *f* $\text{♩} = 108$

82 **H** $\text{♩} = 180$ *arco* **I** $\text{♩} = 96$
ff *3* *3* *3*

103 *fff* *3* *3* *3* *accel.* *rit.*

J $\text{♩} = 80$ *rubato*
f *mp* *mf* *4*

K $\text{♩} = 180$ *accel.* $\text{♩} = 210$ **L**
2 *2* *11*

135 $\text{♩} = 126$
f *ff* *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *4*

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145 *cadaneza free tempo* M ♩=160

mf *f* *p* *pp* *p*

151

156 N ♩=160

f

163 *rubato* O ♩=136
6

173

p *f*

178

182 P ♩=80

mf *p*

188 ♩=120 Div.

193 *rit. much slower* *cresc. cued cutoff*

mf *pp*

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A ♩=136

B ♩=80

C ♩=108 arco

E a tempo dreamy ord.

58 *rubato* F *a tempo* *with determination*

67 *f* *mf*

G $\text{♩} = 108$ *pizz. col legno*

85 H $\text{♩} = 180$ *arco*

98 I $\text{♩} = 96$ *accel.* *rit.*

106 J $\text{♩} = 80$ *rubato*

112 K $\text{♩} = 180$ *accel.* $\text{♩} = 210$

L $\text{♩} = 126$ *cadaneza free tempo*

137 $\text{♩} = 126$ *cadaneza free tempo*

147 M ♩=160

pp *p*

Musical staff 147-152: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 147 starts with a whole note chord. Measure 148 has a whole note chord. Measure 149 has a whole note chord. Measure 150 has a half note chord. Measure 151 has a half note chord. Measure 152 has a half note chord. Dynamics: *pp* (pianissimo) at measure 149, *p* (piano) at measure 150.

153

Musical staff 153-158: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 153 has a half note chord. Measure 154 has a half note chord. Measure 155 has a half note chord. Measure 156 has a half note chord. Measure 157 has a half note chord. Measure 158 has a half note chord.

159 N ♩=160 *rubato*

f

Musical staff 159-165: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 159 has a half note chord. Measure 160 has a half note chord. Measure 161 has a half note chord. Measure 162 has a half note chord. Measure 163 has a half note chord. Measure 164 has a half note chord. Measure 165 has a half note chord. Dynamics: *f* (forte) at measure 160. Performance instruction: *rubato* at measure 163.

166 O ♩=136

p 6 2

Musical staff 166-176: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 166 has a half note chord. Measure 167 has a half note chord. Measure 168 has a half note chord. Measure 169 has a half note chord. Measure 170 has a half note chord. Measure 171 has a half note chord. Measure 172 has a half note chord. Measure 173 has a half note chord. Measure 174 has a half note chord. Measure 175 has a half note chord. Measure 176 has a half note chord. Dynamics: *p* (piano) at measure 170. Performance instructions: **6** (sixteenth notes) at measure 170, **2** (quarter notes) at measure 174.

177

f

Musical staff 177-180: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 177 has a half note chord. Measure 178 has a half note chord. Measure 179 has a half note chord. Measure 180 has a half note chord. Dynamics: *f* (forte) at measure 177.

181

Musical staff 181-184: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 181 has a half note chord. Measure 182 has a half note chord. Measure 183 has a half note chord. Measure 184 has a half note chord.

185 P ♩=80 ♩=120 Div.

mf

Musical staff 185-190: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 185 has a half note chord. Measure 186 has a half note chord. Measure 187 has a half note chord. Measure 188 has a half note chord. Measure 189 has a half note chord. Measure 190 has a half note chord. Dynamics: *mf* (mezzo-forte) at measure 186. Performance instruction: *Div.* (divisi) at measure 187.

191 *rit. much slower*

Musical staff 191-196: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 191 has a half note chord. Measure 192 has a half note chord. Measure 193 has a half note chord. Measure 194 has a half note chord. Measure 195 has a half note chord. Measure 196 has a half note chord. Performance instruction: *rit. much slower* (ritardando, much slower) at measure 191.

197 *cresc. cued cutoff*

pp

Musical staff 197-200: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 197 has a half note chord. Measure 198 has a half note chord. Measure 199 has a half note chord. Measure 200 has a half note chord. Dynamics: *pp* (pianissimo) at measure 198. Performance instruction: *cresc. cued cutoff* (crescendo, cued cutoff) at measure 197.

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A ♩=136

p

mf

mp *pp* *rit.*

mf *f* *ff* *pp*

B ♩=80

rubato *accel.* *pizz.* *p* *ff*

C ♩=108 arco

rit. *meno mosso* *mf* *f* *pp*

div: one as written,
partner artificial harmonic
(2 octaves higher)

cresc.

solo a tempo *dreamy* *mf dolce*

mf

57 *with determination* Unis. *rubato*
pp

63 **F** *a tempo* *with determination*
p *f*

72 **G** ♩=108 pizz. col legno
mf *f*

84 **H** ♩=180 arco
ff

97 **I** ♩=96
fff *accel.* *rit.*

106 **J** ♩=80 *rubato*
f *mp*

112 **K** ♩=180 *accel.*
mf

122 **L** ♩=210
f *f* *ff*

136 ♩=126 *cadaneza free tempo*
f *ff* *f* *ff* *mf* *f* *p*

147 $\text{♩} = 160$ **M**
pp *p*

Musical staff 147-152: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measures 147-152. Measure 147 has a fermata over a whole note. Measures 148-152 are sixteenth-note runs. Measure 152 has a key signature change to one flat.

153

Musical staff 153-158: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 153-158. Measures 153-154 are sixteenth-note runs. Measures 155-158 are quarter notes with eighth rests.

159 **N** $\text{♩} = 160$ *rubato* **O** $\text{♩} = 136$
f **6**

Musical staff 159-162: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 159-162. Measure 159 has a fermata. Measures 160-162 are half notes with a *rubato* marking. Measure 162 has a bar line and a '6' below it.

173 *p*

Musical staff 173-176: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 173-176. Measures 173-174 are eighth-note triplets. Measures 175-176 are quarter notes with eighth rests.

177 *f*

Musical staff 177-180: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 177-180. Measures 177-180 are eighth-note triplets.

181 **P** $\text{♩} = 80$
mf

Musical staff 181-186: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 181-186. Measures 181-182 are eighth-note triplets. Measures 183-184 are quarter notes with eighth rests. Measures 185-186 are eighth-note triplets.

187 $\text{♩} = 120$ Div.

Musical staff 187-192: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 187-192. Measures 187-188 are dotted half notes. Measures 189-192 are eighth-note chords.

193 *rit. much slower* *cresc.* **cued cutoff**
pp

Musical staff 193-196: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 193-196. Measures 193-194 are quarter notes. Measures 195-196 are half notes with a *cresc.* marking. Measure 196 has a double bar line and a *pp* marking.