

Aaron Israel Levin

I MUST BE SURE

for orchestra

(2016)

dedicated to Eric L. McIntyre

I Must Be Sure

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Instrumentation

2 Flutes (2nd doubles Piccolo)

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets in B-flat

2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F

2 Trumpets in B-flat

2 Trombones

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion 1: marimba, vibraphone, xylophone (shared w/ Perc. 2), bass drum

Percussion 2: suspended cymbal, claves, bongos (2), crash cymbal, xylophone (shared w/ Perc. 1)

Piano

Strings

Duration: 7-8 minutes

Transposed Score

PROGRAM NOTE

I Must Be Sure takes both its title and the melodic fragments that make up the piece from the Beatles song *If I Fell*. These fragments are put through a musical blender, producing a new musical landscape that is sometimes anxious, sometimes tranquil, qualities that seem to struggle with each other, reflecting the themes of the original Beatles song — themes of uncertainty, indecision, and apprehension.

PREMIERE PERFORMANCE

November 12, 2016 - Sebring-Lewis Hall, Grinnell College | Grinnell, IA
Grinnell Symphony Orchestra; Eric McIntyre, conductor

I MUST BE SURE

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Transposed Score

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Freely (7-8") **With energy** ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 108$)

5/4 4/4

Flute 1 *p*

Flute 2/Piccolo *p*

Oboe 1 *f*

Oboe 2

B♭ Clarinet 1 *f*

B♭ Clarinet 2

Bassoon 1, 2

F Horn 1, 2 *p* *cresc.*

F Horn 3, 4 *p* *cresc.*

B♭ Trumpet 1, 2

Trombone 1, 2

Tuba

Timpani Low to High: (32" F, 28" B, 25" D, 23" G) *mf* *p*

Marimba hard mallets solo; gradually, organically get faster *f* *p* *f* gradually, organically get faster; approx. hits are given

Percussion 1 *n* *f* *p* *f*

Percussion 2 3-4" Suspended Cymbal *p* *p* To Clv.

Piano

Freely (7-8") **With energy** ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 108$)

5/4 *div.* 4/4 *tutti*

Violin I *n* *f* *legato* *f*

Violin II *pizz.* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Viola *pizz.* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Violoncello *pizz.* *p* *f* *mf* *f*

Contrabass *pizz.* *f* *f*

7

Fl. 1 *f* *p* *f* *f* *f*

Fl. 2 *p* *f* *f* *f*

Ob. 1 *f* *p* *f*

Ob. 2 *f* *f*

Cl. 1 *p* *f sub.* *f*

Cl. 2 *f* *f* *f* *f*

Bsn. 1, 2 *f* *f* *f* *f*

Hn. 1, 2 *f* *p* *cresc.* *f*

Hn. 3, 4 *f* *p* *cresc.* *f*

Tpt. 1, 2 *p* *1. mute* *cresc.* *f*

Tbn. 1, 2

Tba.

Timp. *mf* *mf* *p*

Mar. *p* *f* *f*

Clv. *f* *ff*

Pno.

Vln. I *f* *f* *f* *f* *legato*

Vln. II *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *p*

Vla. *p* *f* *f*

Vc. *p* *f* *mf* *f*

Cb. *f* *f*

3/4 4/4

as before

Claves

To Sus. Cym.

3/4 4/4

A

Fl. 1 *p* *f*

Fl. 2 *f* *p* *mf* *f* *f*

Ob. 1 *f* *f* *p*

Ob. 2 *p* *mf* *f*

Cl. 1 *p* *f*

Cl. 2 *f* *f* *f*

Bsn. 1, 2 *f*

Hn. 1, 2 *f* *p* *f*

Hn. 3, 4 *f* *p* *f*

Tpt. 1, 2 *f* *p* *f*

Tbn. 1, 2

Tba.

Timp. *mf* *f* **hard mallets**

Mar. *p* *f*

Sus. Cym. *p*

Pno.

Vln. I *f* *f*

Vln. II *f* *p* *mp* *f*

Vla. *f* *f*

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

C (♩ = c. 69)

Freely (6-7")

(♩ = c. 108)

23

Fl. 1 *ff* *p*

Picc. *ff* *p* *mf*

Ob. 1 *ff* *p*

Ob. 2 *ff* *p*

Cl. 1 *ff*

Cl. 2 *ff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *ff*

Hn. 1, 2 *ff* *p*

Hn. 3, 4 *ff* *p*

Tpt. 1, 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1, 2 *ff*

Tba.

Timp. *ff* *p*

Mar. *ppp* *f* solo; as before

Sus. Cym. *ff* *p* scrape

Pno. *ff* *p*

C (♩ = c. 69)

Freely (6-7")

(♩ = c. 108)

Vln. I *ff* *p*

Vln. II *ff* *p* pizz.

Vla. *ff* *p*

Vc. *ff*

Cb. *ff*

I Must Be Sure - Transposed Score

7

D

28 $\frac{4}{4}$ *p* *mf* *ff* **3** $\frac{3}{4}$ poco rit.

Fl. 1 *p* *mf* *ff*

Picc. *mf* *cresc.* *f* *cresc.* *s*

Ob. 1 *p* *cresc.* *mf*

Ob. 2 *p*

Cl. 1 *p* *mf*

Cl. 2 *p* *mf*

Bsn. 1, 2 *f* *s*

Hn. 1, 2 *pp* *mf* *s*

Hn. 3, 4 *ppp* *p* *s*

Tpt. 1, 2 1. mute *pp* *mf* *fl.*

Tbn. 1, 2 *f* *s*

Tba.

Timp. $\frac{4}{4}$ soft mallets *ppp* **3** $\frac{3}{4}$

Mar. *p* To Vib. **Vibraphone, motor on medium mallets** *mf* *n*

Sus. Cym. *p* soft mallets *p*

Pno.

D

$\frac{4}{4}$ *p* *mf* **3** $\frac{3}{4}$ poco rit.

Vln. I *p* *mf*

Vln. II

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *solo* *ff* *s*

Cb.

E Slow, dark (♩ = c. 69)

4/4

poco accel.

32

Fl. 1 *pp dolce*

Picc. *ff p pp dolce*

Ob. 1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *ff*

Cl. 1 *ff*

Cl. 2 *ff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *1. ff 2. ffp pp dolce 2. pp*

Hn. 1, 2 *ff mf*

Hn. 3, 4 *ff mf*

Tpt. 1, 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1, 2 *fp pp dolce*

Tba. *fp ppp*

Timp. *f p*

Vib. *ff Red. p mf*

Sus. Cym. *ff pp*

E Slow, dark (♩ = c. 69)

4/4

poco accel.

Vln. I *ff pp dolce*

Vln. II *pizz. ff p*

Vla. *ffp pp dolce*

Vc. *tutti ffp pp p*

Cb. *arco ffp pp p*

Pno. *ff mf p mf p*

66

Fl. 1 *pp* *f* *f* *p* *5*

Fl. 2 *mf* *f* *p*

Ob. 1 *f* *3*

Ob. 2 *f*

Cl. 1 *mf* *f* *p* *tr*

Cl. 2 *mf* *f* *flt.* *p*

Bsn. 1, 2 *f* *f* *a2* *f*

Hn. 1, 2 *f* *pp*

Hn. 3, 4 *3.* *pp*

Tpt. 1, 2 *f*

Tbn. 1, 2 *f* *pp*

Tba. *f* *pp*

Timp. (32" F-E) *f* *2/4* *4/4* *hard mallets* *f*

Vib. (try to hit in unison with violin solo) *f* *no pedal* *To Bongos* *gradually, organically get faster*

Sus. Cym. *mf* *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* *f* *p* *3* *gradually, organically get faster*

Vln. I *f* *as before* *gradually, organically slow down* *3* *getting faster* *2/4* *4/4*

Vln. II *pizz.* *f*

Vla. *pizz.* *f*

Vc. *pizz.* *f* *arco* *pp* *f*

Cb. *p*

J
74 $\frac{4}{4}$

Fl. 1 *f* *fff* *6* *3*

Fl. 2 *f*

Ob. 1 *f*

Ob. 2 *f*

Cl. 1 *f* *fff* *6* *3*

Cl. 2 *f*

Bsn. 1, 2 *f*

Hn. 1, 2 *f*

Hn. 3, 4 *f*

Tpt. 1, 2 *f*

Tbn. 1, 2 *f*

Tba. *f*

Timp. $\frac{4}{4}$

Vib. *f* To Xyl.

Bongos *f* rubber mallets ricochet* *sim.*

Pno. *f* *fff* *8^{va-1}* *8^{va-1}* *15^{va-1}* *8^{va-1}*

J
 $\frac{4}{4}$ arco, tutti *f* on the string

Vln. I *f* on the string

Vln. II *f* arco, div.

Vla. *f* on the string arco

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

*Ricochet - bounce the mallet on the head of the skin, like the *jeté* effect for strings, approximate bounces are given

K

83

Fl. 1 *fl.* *fp* *f*

Fl. 2 *p sub.* *f*

Ob. 1 *f*

Ob. 2 *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

Bsn. 1, 2 *p sub.* *f*

Hn. 1, 2 *p sub.* *f*

Hn. 3, 4 *p sub.* *f*

Tpt. 1, 2 *fl.* *p* *f*

Tbn. 1, 2 *f*

Tba. *p* *f*

Timp. *p* *f*

Vib. *Xylophone* *hard mallets* *fff*

Bongos *ff*

Pno. *p* *f* *fff*

K

Vln. I *div.* *tutti* *ff*

Vln. II *tutti* *p sub.* *f* *on the string*

Vla. *p sub.* *f* *on the string*

Vc. *p sub.* *f*

Cb. *p* *f*

L

92

Fl. 1 *ff*

Fl. 2 *ff*

Ob. 1 *ff* *f*

Ob. 2 *ff* *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

Bsn. 1, 2 *ff* a2

Hn. 1, 2 *ff* a2

Hn. 3, 4 *ff* a2

Tpt. 1, 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1, 2 *ff*

Tba. *ff*

Timp. *ff*

Xyl. *ff* end solo

Sus. Cym. *ff* (choke) *f*

Pno.

Vln. I *f* *ord.* *ff* *solo* *f* *tutti* *ff* *solo* *f* *tutti* *solo* *ff* *tutti* *solo* *ff*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *ff* pizz. arco, div.

Vc. *ff* pizz. arco

Cb. *ff* pizz. arco

3/4 4/4 3/4 4/4

99

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Tbn. 1, 2

Tba.

Timp.

Xyl.

Sus. Cym.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

To Picc.

Piccolo

To B.D.

To Bongos

solo

tutti

f

ff

pp sub.

pp

f

ff

f

mf

3/4

4/4

3/4

4/4

M

end solo

105

Fl. 1 *ff*

Picc. *ff*

Ob. 1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *ff*

Cl. 1 *ff*

Cl. 2 *ff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *ff*

Hn. 1, 2 *ff strong*

Hn. 3, 4 *ff strong*

Tpt. 1, 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1, 2 *ff strong*

Tba. *ff*

Timp. *ff* *f*

B. D. *f*

Bongos *f* *militarily*

Pno. *ff strong*

M

tutti

Vln. I *ff* on the string

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *ff* on the string

Vc. *ff*

Cb. *ff*

P Regretful (♩ = c. 80-88)

135

Fl. 1 *f* *p espr.* *mf*

Picc. *f* *p espr.* *mf* To Fl. Flute

Ob. 1 *p* *mf espr.*

Ob. 2

Cl. 1 *f* *mf espr.* *pp*

Cl. 2 *p* *mf espr.* *f* *ppp* *mf*

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2 *p espr.* *p* *mf* *p*

Tbn. 1, 2

Tba.

Timp. $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ *p*

Vib. *p sempre*

Sus. Cym. *pp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Pno. *p sempre, legato*

P Regretful (♩ = c. 80-88)

Violin I solo

Vln. I *p legato* *mf espr.* *p* *mf* *8va*

Vln. II *pp* *pp sempre* *pizz.*

Vla. *pp* *p sempre* *pizz.*

Vc. *pp*

Cb.

I Must Be Sure - Transposed Score

153

R

$\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

Fl. 1 *p* *p* *p* *p*

Fl. 2 *ff*

Ob. 1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *ff*

Cl. 1 *f* *ff*

Cl. 2 *ff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *f* *ff*

Hn. 1, 2 *f* *ff*

Hn. 3, 4 *f* *ff*

Tpt. 1, 2 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *ff*

Tbn. 1, 2 *f* *ff*

Tba. *f* *ff*

Timp. $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

Vib. *f*

Bongos *f* *ff* *ricochet* *To Sus. Cym.*

Pno.

Vln. I *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *ff*

Vln. II

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Cb. *ff* *arco* *ff*

Sea

R

$\frac{3}{4}$ non div. $\frac{4}{4}$

3/4 2/4 4/4

Fl. 1 *ppp*

Fl. 2 *p mf ppp*

Ob. 1 *mf*

Ob. 2 *mf*

Cl. 1 *p mf*

Cl. 2 *p mf*

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2 *p mf ppp*

Hn. 3, 4 *p mf ppp*

Tpt. 1, 2 *pp ppp*

Tbn. 1, 2

Tba.

Timp. *pp* soft mallets

Vib. *pp*

Bongos *p gentle, resonant* Suspended Cymbal scrape

Pno. *pp* *p* continue to hold pedal until asterisk

Vln. I *ppp* *p ppp pp ppp*

Vln. II *ppp* continue to vibrate

Vla. *pp* continue to vibrate

Vc.

Cb.