

Michael Gandolfi

Sinfonia Brevis

Instrumentation

2 Oboes
Bassoon

2 Horns in F

Strings

Performance Notes

Score is transposed

Accidentals remain in effect for the duration of the measure, only at the octave in which they occur. They are sometimes rewritten within a measure for clarity. Naturals are sometimes written across barline boundaries for clarity.

Approximate duration: 10 minutes

Program Listing

Sinfonia Brevis (2016) Michael Gandolfi (b. 1956)
I. Contrasts
II. Fantasia

Program Notes

Sinfonia Brevis was commissioned by Mei-Ann Chen as a gift to Paul and Linnea Bert of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, on the occasion of Maestra Chen's final year as Music Director of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

Sinfonia Brevis is a ten-minute work in two movements. The first movement, titled *Contrasts*, presents two starkly opposing ideas at the outset that interact for the duration of its hybrid sonata-rondo design. The second movement, titled *Fantasia*, is a free-form design that references several 'classical' genres. Preceding the movement's most substantial, contrapuntal section, the opening idea of the first movement is heard. This initiates a pathway to the ultimate resolution of that idea.

It was a great pleasure composing this piece for my friends, Mei-Ann Chen, Paul and Linnea Burt and the entire Memphis Symphony Orchestra, with whom I have had a long and fruitful relationship.

Michael Gandolfi

Sinfonia Brevis

I. Contrasts

Michael Gandolfi (2016)

Allegro ♩ = 96

Oboe 1
Oboe 2
Bassoon
Horn in F 1
Horn in F 2
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello
Contrabass

Allegro ♩ = 96
non div.

8

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Sinfonia Brevis - I. Contrasts

2

14

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 14 through 19. It features eight staves: two for Oboes (Ob. 1 and 2), one for Bassoon (Bsn.), two for Horns (Hn. 1 and 2), and three for the string section (Violins 1 and 2, and Viola). The woodwinds play melodic lines with various articulations. The strings provide a rhythmic and harmonic foundation with patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamic markings such as *pp* and *sfz* are present. The key signature has one flat, and the time signature is 4/4.

20

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 20 through 25. The instrumentation remains the same as in the previous system. The woodwinds continue their melodic development, with the Oboe 1 part featuring a prominent line. The string section maintains its rhythmic pattern, with some changes in dynamics and articulation. The overall texture is dense and characteristic of a late 20th-century symphonic style. Dynamic markings include *pp*, *sfz*, and *mf*.

26

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

f

div.

pizz.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 26 through 31. It features staves for Oboe 1 and 2, Bassoon, Horn 1 and 2, Violin 1 and 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The woodwinds and strings play a complex, rhythmic pattern. The oboes and bassoon have a dynamic marking of *f*. The violins and violas have a *div.* (divisi) marking. The cello and contrabass have a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking. The music is in a key with one flat and a 2/4 time signature.

32

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

div.

div.

arco

pizz.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 32 through 37. It features the same instrumentation as the previous system. The woodwinds and strings continue their complex, rhythmic pattern. The violins and violas have a *div.* (divisi) marking. The cello and contrabass have an *arco* (arco) marking. The music is in a key with one flat and a 2/4 time signature.

62 **Andante** ♩ = 96

57

Ob. 1 *mp*

Ob. 2 *mp*

Bsn. *subito p* *mp*

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *subito p*

Vla. *subito p* *div.*

Vc. *subito p* *mp*

Cb. *subito p*

64 **70**

Ob. 1 *subito p* *mp* *p*

Ob. 2

Bsn. *subito p* *mp* *p*

Hn. 1 *p*

Hn. 2 *p*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *div.* *p*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *p* *mp* *mp*

Cb. *p* *mp*

Allegro ♩ = 96

Musical score for measures 72 to 79, starting at rehearsal mark 72. The score is divided into two systems, with a section starting at rehearsal mark 79.

- Ob. 1 & 2:** Rests until measure 72, then play a melodic line starting with a dynamic *f*.
- Bsn.:** *mp* in the first system, *f* in the second system.
- Hn. 1 & 2:** Play sustained notes throughout the section, with dynamics ranging from *f* to *mp*.
- Vln. 1:** *mp* in the first system, *f* in the second system.
- Vln. 2:** *mp* in the first system, *f* in the second system.
- Vla.:** *f* in the second system.
- Vc. & Cb.:** *mp* in the first system, *f* in the second system. Includes markings for *arco* and *pizz.*

The second system (measures 79-80) is marked *Allegro* ♩ = 96.

Musical score for measures 80 to 87, starting at rehearsal mark 80. This system continues the orchestral textures from the previous system.

- Ob. 1 & 2:** Active melodic lines with accents, dynamic *f*.
- Bsn.:** Active line with accents, dynamic *f*.
- Hn. 1 & 2:** Sustained notes with accents, dynamic *f*.
- Vln. 1 & 2:** Divisi (div.) textures with accents, dynamic *f*.
- Vla.:** Divisi (div.) textures with accents, dynamic *f*.
- Vc. & Cb.:** Active lines with accents, dynamic *f*. Includes markings for *arco* and *pizz.*

86

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

div.
arco
div.

pp *sfz*

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 86 through 91. It features staves for Oboe 1 and 2, Bassoon, Horn 1 and 2, Violin 1 and 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The woodwinds and strings play sustained notes with long slurs. The violins have a dynamic marking of *pp* and *sfz*. The violas play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The cellos and double basses play a simple harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one flat, and the time signature is 4/4.

92

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

pp *sfz*

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 92 through 97. The instrumentation remains the same as in the previous system. The woodwinds and strings continue with sustained notes and slurs. The violins have a dynamic marking of *pp* and *sfz*. The violas play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The cellos and double basses play a simple harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one flat, and the time signature is 4/4.

98

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 98 to 102. It features eight staves for different instruments: two Oboes (Ob. 1, 2), Bassoon (Bsn.), two Horns (Hn. 1, 2), two Violins (Vln. 1, 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The woodwinds and strings play melodic lines with various articulations and dynamics. The brass instruments provide harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present in the Oboe 2 part at the end of the system.

103

107

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 103 to 107. It features the same eight staves as the previous system. The woodwinds and strings play melodic lines with various articulations and dynamics. The brass instruments provide harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present in the Bassoon part at the beginning of the system. A boxed measure number '107' is located above the Bassoon staff. Performance instructions include *div.* (divisi) for the Violins and Viola, *arco* (arco) for the Violoncello, and *pizz.* (pizzicato) for the Contrabass.

109 115

Ob. 1 *f* *mf* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Ob. 2 *mf* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Bsn. *mf* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Hn. 1 *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Hn. 2 *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Vln. 1 *pp* < *f* > *pp* div.

Vln. 2 *pp* < *f* > *pp* div.

Vla. *pp* < *f* > *pp* div.

Vc. *pp* < *f* > *pp* arco div.

Cb. *pp* < *f* > *pp* div.

122

Ob. 1 *p*

Ob. 2 *p*

Bsn. *p*

Hn. 1 *p*

Hn. 2 *p*

Vln. 1 *p* unis. IV. gliss. ad lib.

Vln. 2 *pp* III. gliss. ad lib.

Vla. *p* unis.

Vc. *pp*

Cb. *pp*

126

Ob. 1
pp *mp* *pp* *p*

Ob. 2
pp *mp* *pp*

Bsn.
pp *mp* *pp*

Hn. 1
pp *mp* *pp* *p*

Hn. 2
pp *mp* *pp* *p*

Vln. 1
div. *pp* *mp* *pp* *p*
IV. gliss. ad lib. unis.

Vln. 2
div. *pp* *mp* *pp* *pp*
III. gliss. ad lib. unis.

Vla.
div. *pp* *mp* *pp* *p*
III. gliss. ad lib. unis.

Vc.
pp *mp* *pp* *pp*

Cb.
div. *pp* *mp* *pp* *pp*

131

Ob. 1
pp *p* *pp*

Ob. 2
pp *p* *pp*

Bsn.
pp *p* *pp*

Hn. 1
pp *p* *pp*

Hn. 2
pp *p* *pp*

Vln. 1
div. *pp* *p* *pp*

Vln. 2
div. *pp* *p* *pp*

Vla.
div. *pp* *p* *pp*

Vc.
div. *pp* *p* *pp*

Cb.
div. *pp* *p* *pp*

136

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

IV. gliss. ad lib.

III. gliss. ad lib. unis.

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

140

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf *mp* *p* *pp* *al niente*

II. Fantasia

Adagio ♩ = 44

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

This block contains the woodwind staves for the Adagio section. It includes parts for Oboe 1, Oboe 2, Bassoon, Horn 1, and Horn 2. All staves are currently empty, indicating that the woodwinds are silent during this passage.

Adagio ♩ = 44

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p legato

p legato

p legato

p legato

p legato

div.

This block contains the string staves for the Adagio section. It includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabasso. The Violin 1 part features a 'div.' (divisi) marking and a long, sweeping melodic line. The other string parts provide harmonic support with a 'p legato' (piano, legato) instruction.

13

Moderato (♩ = c. 108)

9

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

This block contains the woodwind staves for the Moderato section. It includes parts for Oboe 1, Oboe 2, Bassoon, Horn 1, and Horn 2. All staves are currently empty, indicating that the woodwinds are silent during this passage.

Moderato (♩ = c. 108)

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

div.

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

div.

mf

This block contains the string staves for the Moderato section. It includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabasso. The Violin 1 part features a 'div.' (divisi) marking and a melodic line. The other string parts provide harmonic support with a 'mf' (mezzo-forte) instruction. The Viola part also includes a '(poco)' marking.

19 23

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc. unis.
Cb.

29 34

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc. mp
Cb. pizz. mp

39 42 47

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

ff *p* *f* *ppp*

ff *ppp*

ff *ppp*

ff *ppp*

ff *ppp*

ff *ppp*

ff *ppp*

ff *ppp*

ff *ppp*

49 53

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

p *tr* *tr* *p*

57 61

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

64 68

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

p

71 75

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

79 85

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
pp < *f* > *pp*
mp > *pp* < *f* > *pp* *mp* < >

90 98

Ob. 1
pp < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Ob. 2
pp < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Bsn.
pp < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Hn. 1
pp < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Hn. 2
pp < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Vln. 1
div. *pp* < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Vln. 2
div. *pp* < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp* *p*

Vla.
div. *pp* < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Vc.
div. *pp* < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

Cb.
div. *pp* < *f* > *pp* *pp* < *f* > *pp*

pp < *f* > *pp* *mp* < > *pp* < *f* > *pp*

(solo) 104

101 *p* 5 5 5 (solo) *p* 5

Ob. 1
p 5 5 5 (solo) *p* 5

Ob. 2
p 5

Bsn.
p

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Vln. 1
p

Vln. 2

Vla.
p

Vc.
p

Cb.

107 112

Ob. 1 *mf*

Ob. 2 *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf* *tr*

Vla.

Vc. *mf*

Cb. *mf*

114 119

Ob. 1 *mp*

Ob. 2 *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Hn. 1 *mp*

Hn. 2

Vln. 1 *mp*

Vln. 2 *tr*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mp*

Cb. *mp* *pizz.*

121

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

127

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

133 140

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

mp *p* *p* *staccatissimo* *3 soli* *p* *staccatissimo* *pizz.* *p* *pizz.* *pizz.* *pizz.* *p* *pizz.* *mp* *pizz.* *mp*

(Vln. 1, 3 soli)
(Vln. 2, 3 soli)

arco

144 148

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1 div. a 3 (soli)
Vln. 2 div. a 3 (soli)
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

p *p* *p* *p* *mp*

150

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1 div. a 3 (soli)
Vln. 2 div. a 3 (soli)
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

154

Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Vln. 1 div. a 3 (soli)
Vln. 2 div. a 3 (soli)
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

tutti div. a 3 (staccatissimo)
mp
mp (staccatissimo)
mp (staccatissimo)
tutti div. a 3
mp
mp
f
f

158

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Vln. 1
div. a 3
(tutti)

Vln. 2
div. a 3
(tutti)

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

mp

162

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Vln. 1
div. a 3
(tutti)

Vln. 2
div. a 3
(tutti)

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

f

f

f

unis.

arco

unis.

arco

p

