

The Distance Between Us

To Honor All Who Lived and Died in the 2020 Pandemic

by

Shaun Salem

Grade: 4 Duration: 7:29

Instrumentation

1 – Conductor Score

5 – Flute 1

5 – Flute 2

2 – Oboe

2 – Bassoon

1 – E♭ Clarinet

3 – B♭ Clarinet 1

3 – B♭ Clarinet 2

4 – B♭ Clarinet 3

2 – B♭ Bass Clarinet

2 – Alto Saxophone 1

2 – Alto Saxophone 2

2 – Tenor Saxophone

2 – Baritone Saxophone

3 – B♭ Trumpet 1

3 – B♭ Trumpet 2

3 – B♭ Trumpet 3

4 – Horn in F

2 – Trombone 1

2 – Trombone 2

2 – Trombone 3

2 – Euphonium (+2 T.C.)

4 – Tuba

1 – Timpani

2 – Mallets I

Bells

2 – Percussion I

(two players)

Snare Drum, Bass Drum

1 – Percussion II

(one player)

Gong

The Distance Between Us

The Distance Between Us honors all who have been impacted by the 2020-21 Covid-19 Pandemic that devastated the world. This work is a tapestry layered with complimentary themes and gestures beginning with the imagery of an old person sitting on a porch sewing a quilt, a metaphor for the fabric of America. An oboe solo opens the work like threading a needle through the fabric. The oboe's thread continues in other colors of the ensemble until midway through the piece. As instruments enter, we see people busy in their lives, working together in harmony and building to full density, a moment of collaboration and unity.

As the density fades away, the initial thread has moved from the Oboe at the beginning, through Clarinets and Saxes, then to the Tubas. The thread in the Bassoon brings the listener to an ICU with a heart monitor (Eb Clarinet) and a ventilator (Soft Snare Drum Rolls) where the subject of the piece is taken by the Coronavirus. The Oboe mourns with more voices echoing despair (a descending line beginning in the Tenor Sax). Trumpets enter, bringing comfort to those in mourning and hope to those in despair. The work concludes with a climactic tetrachord (Db, Ab, Eb, Bb), a “distanced” sonority. Trumpets return the ensemble to the gesture of unity, and our subject from the beginning looks over of us from the stars, at peace.

Shaun Salem

Born September 26, 1980



Shaun Salem is a music educator, conductor, and composer with a masters degree in music composition from the University of South Florida and a bachelors degree from Middle Tennessee State University. He began composing at the age of 14 under the tutelage of composer W. Mark Harrell, a French Horn player with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra whose compositions are regularly commissioned by the KSO. Shaun studied music composition under composers Michael Linton, Paul Osterfield, David McKay, Paul Reller, Michael Sidney Timpson, and Chi Chun Chi Sun Li. He devotes his music efforts to concert band literature, film scores, classical music, and modern contemporary styles, working diligently to give students a quality educational performance experience in every work.

Additionally, Shaun has been a licensed instrumental music educator since 2011 and has worked closely with area band directors and instrumental instructors for several years, including nationally recognized music educators George Hayden and Roann Romines.

Works from Shaun's WindSaga series have been programmed at multiple clinics, honor bands, and by college bands across the United States. Shaun's 2014 work, "Call of the Wild" (for intermediate band) was awarded "Editor's Choice" by J.W. Pepper, and his 2015 work, "Windfall" received special recognition in Bandworld Magazine's Top 100 list of new works. Shaun has also been called upon to arrange band and percussion music for local marching bands including Knoxville Central High School and Alcoa High School.

Shaun lives in Maryville, Tennessee with his beautiful wife and children. He is a regular participant and occasional guest conductor in community bands including the Tennessee Wind Symphony and the Maryville College Community Band. He teaches percussion at Montgomery Ridge Intermediate School and Maryville Junior High School while also serving as an instructor for George Hayden's world-renowned, elementary grade-level Wind Ensemble, recognized for excellence in 2007 when the ensemble was invited to perform at the Midwest Band Clinic in Chicago, IL. If you are a director who enjoys programming works by this composer, find and connect with Shaun Salem on Facebook to share your group's performances of his works (facebook.com/shaun.salem). Recordings of all Shaun's works can be found at GPGMusic.com or by web search on YouTube.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Flute

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Oboe

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Bassoon

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

E♭ Clarinet

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

B♭ Clarinet 1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

B♭ Clarinet 2

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

B♭ Clarinet 3

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

B♭ Bass Clarinet

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Alto Saxophone 1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Alto Saxophone 2

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Tenor Saxophone

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Baritone Saxophone

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

B♭ Trumpet 1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

B♭ Trumpet 2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Horn in F

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Trombone 1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Trombone 2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Euphonium

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Tuba

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Timpani

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

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10

11

Mallets

Bells

2

3

4

5

6

7

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11

Percussion I

(Two Players)

Snare Drum, Bass Drum

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Percussion II

(One Player)

Gong

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

49

55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65

1 Fl. 2 *f* *mf*

Ob.

Bsn. Solo *p*

E♭ Cl. *f* *p*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f* Eb Clt. cues

Cl. 3 *f*

B. Cl. *mp* Bsn cues

A. Sx. 1 *mf*

A. Sx. 2 *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. *mp*

57 65

Tpt. 1 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

2 Tpt. 3 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

Hn. *mp* 3 3

Tbn. 1 *mf* *mp* 3

2 Tbn. 3 *mf* *mp* 3

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlts. I *mf*

Perc. I *mp* Bass Drum

Perc. II *mp*

[illegible]

767778798081828384

1
Fl.

2

Ob.

f *mp* *mp* *mp* *f* *mp*

Bsn.

E♭ Cl.

Cl. 1

mp *mp* *mp* *f* *mp*

Cl. 2

mp

Cl. 3

mp

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

mp *mp* *mp* *f*

A. Sx. 2

mp

T. Sx.

mp

B. Sx.

81

Tpt. 1

2
Tpt.

3

Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tenor
Saxophone solo
cues

2
Tbn.

3

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlts. I

Perc. I

Perc. II

85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Eb Cl.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlts. I

Perc. I

Perc. II

tutti

mp

mf

f

Play

2

1

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments, including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The page contains measures 93 through 100. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl. (Flute), Ob. (Oboe), Bsn. (Bassoon), Eb Cl. (E-flat Clarinet), Cl. 1 (Clarinet 1), Cl. 2 (Clarinet 2), Cl. 3 (Clarinet 3), B. Cl. (B-flat Clarinet), A. Sx. 1 (Alto Saxophone 1), A. Sx. 2 (Alto Saxophone 2), T. Sx. (Tenor Saxophone), B. Sx. (Baritone Saxophone), Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1), Tpt. 2 (Trumpet 2), Tpt. 3 (Trumpet 3), Hn. (Horn), Tbn. 1 (Trombone 1), Tbn. 2 (Trombone 2), Tbn. 3 (Trombone 3), Euph. (Euphonium), Tuba, Timp. (Timpani), Mlts. I (Mellophone I), Perc. I (Percussion I), and Perc. II (Percussion II). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (mf, f, ppp). A large, faint watermark is visible across the center of the page.

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony or concert band. The score is written for a large ensemble, including woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion. The page contains measures 101 through 106. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), E♭ Clarinet (Eb Cl.), Clarinet in B♭ (Cl. 1), Clarinet in B♭ (Cl. 2), Clarinet in B♭ (Cl. 3), and Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.). The brass section includes Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Trumpet 3 (Tpt. 3), Horn (Hn.), Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2), Trombone 3 (Tbn. 3), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The string section includes Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), and Double Bass (Db. B.). The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), Mallets I (Mlts. I), Percussion I (Perc. I), and Percussion II (Perc. II). The score includes various dynamic markings such as *f* (forte), *ff* (fortissimo), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). There are also measure numbers 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, and 106. A large, faint watermark is visible across the center of the page.

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony. The page is numbered 107 at the top left. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments, including:

- Fl. 1, Fl. 2
- Ob.
- Bsn.
- E♭ Cl.
- Cl. 1, Cl. 2, Cl. 3
- B. Cl.
- A. Sx. 1, A. Sx. 2
- T. Sx.
- B. Sx.
- Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3
- Hn.
- Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3
- Euph.
- Tuba
- Timp.
- Mlts. I
- Perc. I
- Perc. II

The score includes various musical notations, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings. Key markings include:

- 107**: Measure number at the top left.
- 108**: Measure number in a box at the top left of the first system.
- 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116**: Measure numbers at the top of the first system.
- pp**: Pianissimo (very soft) dynamic marking.
- mf**: Mezzo-forte (moderately loud) dynamic marking.
- p**: Piano (soft) dynamic marking.
- rit.**: Ritardando (slowing down) tempo marking.
- Langsam**: Slow tempo marking.
- ♩ = 52**: Tempo marking indicating a quarter note equals 52 beats per minute.
- Solo**: Marking for a solo performance.
- Dampen on Release**: Marking for a percussive effect.

The score is written in a standard musical notation style, with notes, rests, and other musical symbols. The page is numbered 107 at the top left. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments, including: