## Music for Youth Orchestra V

Craig Bakalian

## Foreword

Music for Youth Orchestra is music for young advanced musicians at a maturity level of high school or college. It was written as a study in tonality, meter, and phrasing. Music for Youth Orchestra $V$ is part of a series of eight pieces each organized by tonality; Major, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, Locrian, and Minor. Each of the eight pieces includes the development of a variety of meter; Duple, Triple, Unusual Paired, Unusual Unpaired, and Combined. The phrasing was written with the thought of young musicans in mind. The phrasing is clear, simple, and primarily even (four or eight bars). However, often in the development sections, a phrase may be varied with unusual harmonic motion with shifts (substitution) in tonics, dominants, and subdominants. It should be noted that there is nothing simple about this music. It requires rigorous study and considerable rehearsal effort.

Music for Youth Orchestra $V$ is based upon Mixolydian tonality and Combined meter. The primary focus of this music is the expression of Combined meter with out the use of signed brackets; therefore, the use of $12 / 8$ as a measure signature is of importance, which subsequently presents a theoretical difficulty of twelve eighth notes expressing a variety of meters which is defined by the rhythmic notation. The $12 / 8$ often becomes 6/4, the 6/4 often becomes 3/2, however, these signatures are only measure signatures. So, a secondary issue and purpose of this music is for musician students to not be deceived by measure signatures. And, historically, musicians and music teachers alike have often referred to measure signatures as meter signatures which is incorrect. A measure signature may help a composer a performer to generalize meter, however, measure signatures do not truly define the meter of a piece of music.

The main theme is stated in the first violins and violas a measure three, but special attention should be given to the secondary theme stated by the first clarinet at measure one. The clarinet theme is grouped initially in triple meter, but careful inspection of it reveals that it may easily be grouped into duple meter as expressed in the piano at rehearsal letter D, where, with great challenge, at least to me the composer, the pianist must perform in duple and triple meter. The original intention of this music was to create a work for piano and orchestra where the piano was of equal importance to the orchestra accompaniment, or the piano was a part of the orchestra. However, during its creation, it became a concerto-like piece. As in the other works in this series the string parts should be divided; double stops are not required in any of the string parts. A generous amount of string players is required. The section at rehearsal letter $G$ was a lot of fun for me to write, please make if fun for the performers!

## Craig Bakalian

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## Music for Youth Orchestra V <br> 2014

Flute I

Flute II

Oboe I

Oboe II

Clarinet I B b

Clarinet II B b

Bassoon I

Bassoon II


Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass


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