

# Exordium

for mixed chamber ensemble

Steven Jon Landis, Jr.



## **Instrumentation**

Flute

Oboe

English Horn

Bass Clarinet (with low C)

Tenor Saxophone

Vibraphone

Percussion: floor tom, bass drum,  
Chinese crash cymbal, large tam-tam,  
small (5"-7") suspended cymbal,  
small (10"-12") suspended gong,  
large ceramic dinner plate

Electric Guitar

Piano

Celesta

Violin

Violoncello

Double Bass (with C extension)

Duration: 6'

## **Program Notes**

*Exordium*, for mixed chamber ensemble was written during the fall of 2011 during the composer's first semester of graduate study at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The character of *Exordium* is one of rhythmic aggressiveness, frenetic energy, and forward motion. The work is relentless in its exuberance and at times, like an overzealous hello in an otherwise quiet room. *Present Continuous* premiered *Exordium* on its inaugural concert in December 2011.

## **Biography**

Steven Landis earned a BM in Composition (1999) and an MM in Double Bass Performance (2002) from the University of Florida School of Music. Mr. Landis studied bass with Kevin Casseday and composition with James Paul Sain, Paul Richards, and Mark Engebretson. Mr. Landis is currently on hiatus from his performance career while pursuing a Master's Degree in Composition at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he studies composition with Alejandro Rutty and Mark Engebretson. Compositions and arrangements by Mr. Landis are published through Veritas Musica Publishing.

For more information please contact Steven directly at: [slandismusic.com](http://slandismusic.com)

score is transposed

# exordium

Steven Jon Landis, Jr.

$\text{♩} = 144$  with focused intent

for mixed chamber ensemble

Flute *ff*

Oboe *ff*

English Horn *ff*

Bass Clarinet *ff*

Tenor Sax. *ff*

Vibraphone *ff* motor off sempre

**Percussion**  
 large tam-tam  
 floor tom  
 bass drum  
 chinese crash  
 large ceramic dinner plate (10"-12") sus. gong (5"-7") sus. cymbal

chinese crash with stick *ff*

bass drum with hard mallet

Electric Guitar *ff*

Piano *ff*

Celesta

Violin *ff*

Violoncello *ff*

Double Bass *ff*



Fl.  
Ob.  
E. Hn.  
B. Cl.  
T. Sx.  
Vib.  
Perc.  
Gtr.  
Pno.  
Cel.  
Vln.  
Vc.  
D.B.

*tr*  
*mp sub.*  
*ff*  
*sub. f*  
*f*  
*p.m.*  
*sub. f*  
*f*  
*spicc.*  
*sub. mp*  
*ff*  
*f*

The musical score is for a full orchestra and includes the following instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), English Horn (E. Hn.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Percussion (Perc.), Guitar (Gtr.), Piano (Pno.), Cello (Cel.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The score is in common time (C) and begins with a dynamic of *mp sub.* for the Clarinet and Saxophone, and *ff* for the Piano. The Flute and Oboe parts feature intricate melodic lines with many accents. The strings play a steady accompaniment, with the Double Bass part marked *sub. mp* and *ff*. The Guitar part has a *p.m.* (pizzicato) section in the third measure. The Cello and Violin parts are marked *f* and *spicc.* (spiccato) in the third measure. The Double Bass part is marked *f* in the third measure. The score is marked with a star (\*) in the third measure of the Cello part.

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*cresc.*

*ff*

*on the string*

*spicc.*

*cresc.*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*cresc.*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*



Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*p* *f* 3

on the string

col legno

*mf*

col legno

*mf*

col legno

*mf*

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*p*

*f*

*ff*

3

6

3

3

3

8<sup>vb</sup> *And.* \*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score (page 19) features a variety of instruments. The Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.) parts are mostly silent, indicated by horizontal lines. The English Horn (E. Hn.) has a few notes at the beginning. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) and Saxophone (T. Sx.) parts are active, with the B. Cl. playing a melodic line and the T. Sx. playing a rhythmic accompaniment. The Piano (Pno.) part is also active, providing harmonic support. The Clarinet (Cel.) part has some markings but no notes. Dynamics range from piano (*p*) to fortissimo (*ff*). There are also markings for triplets (3) and a sixteenth-note figure (6). The score includes a section marked *And.* (Andante) with a dynamic marking of *8<sup>vb</sup>* and a star symbol.

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*mp*

*fp*  
*Reo.*

*ff*

*8vb*

*f*  
*Reo.*

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The woodwind section (Flute, Oboe, Horn, Clarinet, Saxophone) and strings (Violin, Viola, Double Bass) are mostly silent. The Piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern in the right hand with accents and a dynamic marking of *ff*. The left hand has an *8vb* marking. The Vibraphone part has a dynamic marking of *fp* and includes a *Reo.* marking. The Cello part has a dynamic marking of *f* and a *Reo.* marking. The score is divided into four measures.

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*p* *ff* *mp cresc.*

*sfz*

*Leg.*

\*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score contains 13 staves. The top five staves (Flute, Oboe, Horns, Clarinet, Saxophone) are in treble clef. The next three staves (Vibraphone, Percussion, Guitar) are in a simplified notation. The Piano part consists of two staves in bass clef. The Cello part consists of two staves in treble and bass clef. The Violin, Viola, and Double Bass parts are in bass clef. The Saxophone staff features a melodic line starting in 2/4 time, moving to 3/4, and ending in common time. It includes dynamic markings *p*, *ff*, and *mp cresc.*, and fingering numbers 5. The Piano part has a fortissimo (*sfz*) chord in the 3/4 section. The Cello part has a *Leg.* marking in the 3/4 section. The Violin and Viola parts have a *\** marking above the first measure. The Double Bass part has a melodic line in bass clef.

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

E. Hn.

B. Cl. *ff*

T. Sx. *ff* open slap tongue

Vib.

Perc. chinese crash with stick *mf* choke sim.

Gtr. *ff*

Pno. *ff* 8<sup>vb</sup>

Cel.

Vln. ord. *ff* ord.

Vc. *ff* ord.

D.B. *ff* ord.

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc. tam-tam with  
very soft mallet L.V.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*p*  $\longrightarrow$  *f*

*p*  $\longrightarrow$  *f*

*f*  $\longrightarrow$  *ff*

39

Fl. sub. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

E. Hn. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

T. Sx. ord. *ff*

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr. p.m. with heavy distortion *ff*

Pno. *ff*

Cel. *ff*

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

D.B. *ff*





45

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr. *p.m.*

Pno. *ff*

Cel. *ff*

Vln. *spicc.* *on the string*

Vc.

D.B.

Detailed description of the musical score: This page of a musical score, numbered 45, contains parts for twelve instruments. The Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), and Saxophone (T. Sx.) parts feature intricate melodic lines with many slurs and accents. The Horns (E. Hn., B. Cl.) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Vibraphone (Vib.) and Percussion (Perc.) parts are mostly rests. The Guitar (Gtr.) part has a 'p.m.' (pizzicato) marking and a dashed line above it. The Piano (Pno.) part has a 'ff' (fortissimo) marking. The Cello (Cel.) part also has a 'ff' marking. The Violin (Vln.) part has 'spicc.' (spiccato) and 'on the string' markings. The Viola (Vc.) and Double Bass (D.B.) parts provide a steady rhythmic accompaniment.



Fl. *sfz* *p* pitch bend

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl. *p* *fp* *ppp* to breath

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc. scrape chinese crash with metal beater *sfz* L.V.

Gtr.

Pno. *pp* *p*

Cel. *pp*

Vln. *arco*

Vc. *p*

D.B.

Fl. *p*

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel. *pp*

Vln. *pp* *cresc.* *p*

Vc. *pp*

D.B. *pp* arco

Detailed description: This page of a musical score contains measures 56 through 61. The Flute part begins with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 56, followed by a half note and a quarter note, all under a slur. The dynamic is *p*. The Oboe, Horns, Clarinets, Saxophone, and Vibraphone parts are silent, indicated by rests. The Percussion part has a single note in each measure. The Guitar part is silent. The Piano part has a whole note chord in each measure. The Cello part has a half note chord in measure 56, followed by rests. The dynamic is *pp*. The Violin part has a half note chord in measure 56, followed by a triplet of eighth notes in measure 57, and then a half note and a quarter note in measure 58, all under a slur. The dynamic is *pp*, which then crescendos to *p* by measure 61. The Viola part has a half note chord in each measure, with a dynamic of *pp*. The Double Bass part has a half note chord in each measure, with a dynamic of *pp* and the instruction *arco*.

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*pp*  
Reo.

*p* *pp* *mf* *p* *ff*

*mp* *pp*

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.   
 small 5-7" suspended cymbal scrape with metal mallet   
 L.V.   
  $sfz$

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.   
  $fp$    
 sul tasto e non. vib.

Vc.   
 ord.   
  $fp$    
 sul tasto e non. vib.

D.B.   
  $fp$    
 sul tasto e non. vib.

Fl. *p*

Ob. *pp* *p*

E. Hn. *mp* *ppp*

B. Cl.

T. Sx. *ppp*

Vib.

Perc. tam-tam with very soft mallet *ppp*

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln. *n*

Vc. *ord.* *n*

D.B. *ord.* *n*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score (page 71) features a woodwind section with Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), English Horn (E. Hn.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), and Saxophone (T. Sx.), a string section with Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.), and a Percussion (Perc.) section. The Flute part has a wavy line above it and notes with dynamics *p* and *pp*. The Oboe part has triplets and dynamics *pp* and *p*. The English Horn part has triplets and dynamics *mp* and *ppp*. The Saxophone part has a quintuplet and dynamic *ppp*. The Percussion part has a tam-tam with a very soft mallet and dynamic *ppp*. The string parts (Vln., Vc., D.B.) have notes with dynamics *n* and *ord.* (ordinario). The Violin part has a triplet. The Viola and Double Bass parts have notes with dynamics *n* and *ord.*. The Percussion part has a note with dynamic *ppp*. The string parts (Vln., Vc., D.B.) have notes with dynamics *n* and *ord.*. The Violin part has a triplet. The Viola and Double Bass parts have notes with dynamics *n* and *ord.*.

senza misura  
molto espressivo appassionato

75

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

ord.

*n*

sul pont.

ord.

molto accel.

molto rit.

*ff* < *f* *ff*

3



78 Measured  
A Tempo  $\text{♩} = 72$

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*ff* sub. *p*

*p*

*p* cresc.

arco

*p* cresc.

cresc.



Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

The musical score is for page 85 and is written in 3/4 time. It features a variety of instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), English Horn (E. Hn.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Percussion (Perc.), Guitar (Gtr.), Piano (Pno.), Cello (Cel.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The Flute and Oboe parts are marked with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The score includes complex rhythmic patterns with many slurs and accents. The Cello part has a *pp* marking. The Percussion part is marked with a 3/4 time signature. The Guitar part is marked with a 3/4 time signature. The Piano part is marked with a 3/4 time signature. The Violin and Viola parts are marked with a 3/4 time signature. The Double Bass part is marked with a 3/4 time signature.

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*ff*

with minimal distortion or overdrive

*sub. p*

Detailed description of the musical score: This page contains a full orchestral and band score for measures 88-90. The instruments listed on the left are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), English Horn (E. Hn.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Percussion (Perc.), Guitar (Gtr.), Piano (Pno.), Cello (Cel.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first measure (88) features a complex rhythmic pattern with many accents (>) and slurs. The Flute and Oboe parts have rests in measure 88. The Vibraphone part starts with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The Guitar part is marked 'with minimal distortion or overdrive'. The second measure (89) continues the rhythmic patterns, with the Vibraphone dynamic changing to *sub. p*. The third measure (90) shows a change in the Vibraphone part, with a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a dynamic of *p*. The Percussion part has rests in all three measures.

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*mf*

clean tone

p.m.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

spicc.

*mf*

*mf*

Fl. *f* *sub. mp* *f*

Ob. *f*

E. Hn. *f* *sub. mp* *f*

B. Cl. *f*

T. Sx. *f* closed slap tongue

Vib. *f*

Perc.

Gtr. with heavy distortion *sub. f* *sub. mp* *f*

Pno. *f*

Cel. *f*

Vln. *sub. f* on the string *spicc.*

Vc. *f*

D.B. *f*







Fl. *p*

Ob. *p*

E. Hn. *p*

B. Cl. *p*

T. Sx. *p*

Vib.

Perc. *pp*  
small (10"-12") suspended gong and large ceramic dinner plate

Gtr.

Pno. *pp* *8va*

Cel. *pp*

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

Hold the suspended gong in one hand and the dinner plate by the edge horizontally in the other hand. Using the plate, gouge its edge into the gong creating very subtle vibrations. In this manner you can alter the pitch of the gong by changing placement and pressure of the plate against its surface.

Fl. *ff* *sub. fp*  
 Ob. *ff* *fp*  
 E. Hn. *ff* *fp*  
 B. Cl. *ff*  
 T. Sx. *ff*  
 Vib. *p*  
 Perc.  
 Gtr.  
 Pno. *ff*  
 Cel. *pp*  
 Vln. *ff*  
 Vc. *ff*  
 D.B. *ff*

Musical score for page 112, featuring various instruments including Flute, Oboe, Horn, Clarinet, Saxophone, Vibraphone, Percussion, Guitar, Piano, Cello, Violin, Viola, and Double Bass. The score is in 3/4 time and includes dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo), *fp* (fortissimo piano), *p* (piano), and *pp* (pianissimo). It also features articulation marks like accents and slurs, and some triplets.

116

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*fp*

*mf*

*fp*

*pp*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*non. vib.*

*mf*

*fp*

clean tone

with minimal distortion or overdrive

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff*

E. Hn. *f* *ff*

B. Cl. *f* *ff*

T. Sx. *f* *ff* closed slap tongue

Vib. *f* *ff*

Perc. large floor tom with sticks *ff*

Gtr. *ff* p.m.

Pno. *ff*

Cel. *f* *ff*

Vln. *ff* spicc.

Vc. *f* *ff*

D.B. ord. *ff* sub. *f* *ff*

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx. ord. closed slap tongue

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln. on the string spicc.

Vc.

D.B.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 124, features ten staves. The Flute (Fl.) staff begins with a melodic line in the first measure, followed by a more complex rhythmic pattern in the second and third measures. The Oboe (Ob.) staff plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The English Horn (E. Hn.) staff mirrors the flute's melodic line. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment. The Trombone (T. Sx.) staff has a melodic line in the first measure, then rests, and returns in the third measure with a 'closed slap tongue' effect. The Vibraphone (Vib.) staff plays a rhythmic accompaniment. The Percussion (Perc.) staff is mostly silent. The Guitar (Gtr.) staff plays a rhythmic accompaniment. The Piano (Pno.) staff has a complex rhythmic accompaniment. The Cello (Cel.) staff plays a rhythmic accompaniment. The Violin (Vln.) staff has a melodic line in the first measure, then rests, and returns in the third measure with a 'spicc.' (spiccato) effect. The Viola (Vc.) staff plays a rhythmic accompaniment. The Double Bass (D.B.) staff plays a rhythmic accompaniment.

Fl. *sub. fff*

Ob. *sub. fff*

E. Hn. *sub. fff*

B. Cl. *fff*

T. Sx. *fff*

Vib. *sub. fff*

Perc. large floor tom with sticks *ff*

Gtr. with heavy distortion *p.m.* *sub. fff*

Pno. *sub. fff*

Cel.

Vln. *on the string*

Vc.

D.B.

Measures 127-130, 3/4 time signature.

130

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.

*sim.*

*sim.*

*sim.*

closed slap tongue

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

Fl.

Ob.

E. Hn.

B. Cl.

T. Sx.

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno.

Cel.

Vln.

Vc.

D.B.



Fl. *f* 3 3 3 3 3 3

Ob.

E. Hn. *f* 3 3 3 3

B. Cl. *f* 3 3 3 3

T. Sx. *f* 3 3 3 3

Vib.

Perc.

Gtr.

Pno. *ff* 3 3 3 3 *8<sup>vb</sup>*

Cel.

Vln. *f* *spicc.* 3 3 3 3

Vc. *f* *spicc. 3* 3 3 3

D.B. *f* *spicc. 3* 3 3 3

Fl. *sub. ff*

Ob. *ff*

E. Hn. *ff* *sub. f*

B. Cl. *ff*

T. Sx. *ff*

Vib. *ff*

Perc. *ff* bass drum with hard mallet *sub. mf* *sub. ff*

Gtr. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

Cel. *ff*

Vln. *ff* *sub. f* *sub. ff* on the string

Vc. *ff*

D.B. *ff* on the string

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for page 140 of a symphony. It features a full orchestral ensemble. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), English Horn (E. Hn.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), and Saxophone (T. Sx.). The string section includes Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The percussion section includes Vibraphone (Vib.), Percussion (Perc.), and Guitar (Gtr.). The piano (Pno.) and Celesta (Cel.) are also present. The score is in 3/4 time and consists of three measures. The first measure is in common time (C), and the second and third measures are in 3/4 time. The dynamics range from *ff* (fortissimo) to *sub. mf* (subito mezzo-forte). The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the percussion plays a steady bass drum pattern. The piano and celesta play a similar rhythmic pattern. The violin and viola play a melodic line with triplets and accents. The double bass plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The flute, oboe, and saxophone play a melodic line with accents and triplets. The English horn and bass clarinet play a melodic line with accents and triplets. The vibraphone plays a melodic line with accents and triplets.



