

FOR PERCUSSION ONLY

SEAN WIK TURNER

MÖBIUS

for saxophone quartet

MÖBIUS

A Möbius strip is a particular kind of strange loop, a geometric phenomenon that defies convention. The strip is a looped plane with a single twist. If one traces along the length of the strip, he or she will travel the length of the strip twice, once on each side, without ever crossing an edge. Essentially this provides the paradoxical idea of a loop with only one side. It can be easily modeled with a strip of paper, twisted once and taped ends together.

Since half the Möbius strip is the other half upside down, that is the form I have chosen for my first quartet piece. The first half is a combination of octatonic, dodecaphonic, and diatonic material with heavy emphasis on chromaticism passed throughout the ensemble. The second half (beginning with measure 40) is exactly the same as the first, inverted about concert C. The entire score is flipped, so the material in the soprano sax in the first section is inverted in the bari sax in the second. The entire piece repeats da capo, and the quartet may decide when is best to fade out, as a Möbius strip never ends. The quartet may choose to play all the way through twice, or halfway through the second time, or fifteen times!

Möbius was originally written for an experimental quartet of bass instruments – bassoon, bari sax, tuba, and double bass. The arrangement for saxophones is unchanged with the exception of octave displacement.

Sean WK Turner
5 October 2013

FOR PERUSALONE

MÖBIUS

for saxophone quartet

SEAN WK TURNER

Allegro ma non troppo $\text{♩} = 120$

B♭ Soprano Saxophone

E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Sop.

Alto

Ten.

Bari

Sop.

Alto

Ten.

Bari

Sop. *mf*

Alto *mf*

Ten. *f*

Bari *f*

14 15 16 17

Sop. *ff*

Alto *ff*

Ten. *ff*

Bari *ff*

19 20 21 22

Sop. *mf ff* *mf*

Alto *mf* *ff* *mf*

Ten. *mf* *ff* *mf ff* *f* *mf*

Bari *mf* *ff* *mf ff* *f* *mf*

23 24 25 26 27

29

Sop. *mp p mf*

Alto *mp p mf*

Ten. *mp p f*

Bari *mp p ff*

28 29 30 31 32

Sop. *f mf*

Alto *f mf*

Ten. *mf f*

Bari *mf f*

33 34 35 36

Sop. *ff*

Alto *f ff*

Ten. *f ff*

Bari *f ff*

37 38 39

40

Sop. *f*

Alto *f*

Ten. *f*

Bari *mf*

Sop. *f*

Alto *f*

Ten. *ff*

Bari *f*

44 45 46 47 48

50

Sop. *mf*

Alto *mf*

Ten. *f*

Bari *f*

49 50 51 52 53

Sop. *f*

Alto *f*

Ten. *mf*

Bari *mf*

54 55 56 57

58 Sop. *ff* *mf*

Alto *ff* *mf*

Ten. *ff* *mf*

Bari *ff*

58 59 60 61 62

Sop. *ff* *mf ff* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Alto *ff* *mf ff* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Ten. *ff* *ff* *mf* *mp* *p*

Bari *mf ff* *ff* *mf* *mp* *p*

63 64 65 66 67

68

Sop. *f*

Alto *ff*

Ten. *mf*

Bari *mf*

Sop. *mf* *f*

Alto *mf* *f*

Ten. *f* *mf*

Bari *f* *mf*

72 73 74 7#

Sop. *f* *ff* *D.C. and fade to niente*

Alto *f* *ff*

Ten. *f* *ff*

Bari *ff*

76 77 78