

FLIGHT OF THE PIASA

By Robert Sheldon

Instrumentation

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 — Conductor Score | 2 — 1st F Horn |
| 5 — 1st Flute & Piccolo | 2 — 2nd F Horn |
| 5 — 2nd Flute | 2 — 1st Trombone |
| 2 — Oboe | 2 — 2nd Trombone |
| 2 — Bassoon | 2 — 3rd Trombone |
| 4 — 1st B \flat Clarinet | 2 — Euphonium T.C. |
| 4 — 2nd B \flat Clarinet | 2 — Euphonium B.C. |
| 4 — 3rd B \flat Clarinet | 4 — Tuba |
| 2 — B \flat Bass Clarinet | Percussion — 6 players: |
| 2 — 1st E \flat Alto Saxophone | 1 — Bells |
| 2 — 2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone | 2 — Percussion 1 (Snare Drum,
Bass Drum) |
| 2 — B \flat Tenor Saxophone | 5 — Percussion 2 (Suspended
Cymbal, Crash Cymbals/
Tambourine/Wind
Chimes/Triangle) |
| 1 — E \flat Baritone Saxophone | 1 — Timpani |
| 3 — 1st B \flat Trumpet | |
| 3 — 2nd B \flat Trumpet | |
| 3 — 3rd B \flat Trumpet | |

World Parts

available for download from
www.alfred.com/worldparts

- E \flat Alto Clarinet
- E \flat Contra Bass Clarinet
- B \flat Contra Bass Clarinet
- 1st E \flat Horn
- 2nd E \flat Horn
- 3rd E \flat Horn
- 4th E \flat Horn
- 1st Trombone in B \flat T.C.
- 2nd Trombone in B \flat T.C.
- 3rd Trombone in B \flat T.C.
- 1st Trombone in B \flat B.C.
- 2nd Trombone in B \flat B.C.
- 3rd Trombone in B \flat B.C.
- Euphonium in B \flat B.C.
- Tuba in B \flat T.C.
- Tuba in B \flat B.C.
- Tuba in E \flat T.C.
- Tuba in E \flat B.C.



Flight of the Piasa was commissioned by the Alton High School Band, Alton, Illinois, David W. Drillinger, Director. The composition is meant to depict the majesty of the legendary Piasa, an enormous winged creature, and the bravery and triumph of the Illini tribe.

The Piasa Bird (pronounced pie-a-saw) is a local legend in the Alton area. Its discovery dates to 1673 when Father Jacques Marquette, in recording his famous journey down the Mississippi River with Louis Joliet, described the Piasa as a birdlike monster painted high on the bluffs along the Mississippi River, where the city of Alton, Illinois now stands. According to the diary, the Piasa "was as large as a calf with horns like a deer, red eyes, a beard like a tiger's, a face like a man, the body covered with green, red and black scales and a tail so long it passed around the body, over the head and between the legs." The creature was given its name by the Illini tribe, "The Piasa," meaning a bird that devours men.

One of the most commonly-heard stories regarding this legend is that long ago there existed a birdlike creature of such great size, he could easily carry off a full grown deer in his talons. His taste, however, was for human flesh. Hundreds of warriors attempted to destroy the Piasa, but failed. Whole villages were destroyed and fear spread throughout the Illini tribe. Ouatoga, a chief whose fame extended even beyond the Great Lakes, separated himself from his tribe, fasted in solitude for the space of a whole moon, and prayed to the Great Spirit to protect his people from the Piasa.

On the last night of his fast, the Great Spirit appeared to Ouatoga in a dream and directed him to select 20 warriors, arm them each with a bow and poisoned arrow, and conceal them in a designated spot. Another warrior was to stand in an open view, as a victim for the Piasa. When the chief awoke in the morning, he told the tribe of his dream. The warriors were quickly selected and placed in ambush. Ouatoga offered himself as the victim. Placing himself in open view, he soon saw the Piasa perched on the bluff eyeing his prey. Ouatoga began to chant the death song of a warrior. The Piasa took to the air and swooped down upon the chief. The Piasa had just reached his victim when every bow was sprung and every arrow sent sailing into the body of the beast. The Piasa uttered a fearful scream that echoed down the river, and died. Ouatoga was safe, and the tribe saved.

This remarkable painting has been a local landmark. The recently restored painting can be seen on the bluff just north of Alton on the Great River Road.

Flight of the Piasa

FULL SCORE
Duration - 5:10

Presto ♩ = 152

Robert Sheldon
op. 120

Flutes & Piccolo 1/2 +Picc. *ff* *a2* *mf* -Picc.

Oboe *ff* *mf*

Bassoon *ff* *mf*

B♭ Clarinets 1 *ff* *a2* *mf*

B♭ Bass Clarinet 2/3 *ff* *mf*

E♭ Alto Saxophones 1/2 *ff* *a2* *ff*

B♭ Tenor Saxophone *ff*

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *ff*

B♭ Trumpets 1/2/3 *ff*

F Horns 1/2 *ff* *a2*

Trombones 1/2/3 *ff*

Euphonium *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Bells *ff* (brass mallets)

Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum) S.D. *f* B.D. *f*

Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals, Tambourine, Wind Chimes/Triangle) Cr. Cyms. *f* (medium mallets) *p* *ff*

Timpani *ff*

Tune: F, B♭, D, E♭ *ff* 1 *mp* 2 *ff* 3



This musical score page features the following instruments and parts:

- Fls./Picc.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Ob.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Bsn.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Cls.:** Parts 1, 2, and 3, measures 1-4.
- B. Cl.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- A. Saxes:** Parts 1 and 2, measures 1-4.
- T. Sax.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Bar. Sax.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Tpts.:** Parts 1, 2, and 3, measures 1-4.
- Hns.:** Parts 1 and 2, measures 1-4.
- Trbs.:** Parts 1, 2, and 3, measures 1-4.
- Euph.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Tuba:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Bells:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Perc. 1:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Perc. 2:** Part 1, measures 1-4.
- Timp.:** Part 1, measures 1-4.

Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mf* with a hairpin symbol. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Fls./Picc. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2

Trbs. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

12 13 14 15 16

Fls./Picc. 1 2 *fp* *ff* *mf*

Ob. *fp* *ff*

Bsn. *fp* *mf*

Cls. 1 *fp* *ff* *mf*

2 3 *fp* *ff* *mf*

B. Cl. *fp* *mf*

A. Saxes 1 2 *fp* *mf*

T. Sax. *fp* *mf*

Bar. Sax. *fp* *mf*

Tpts. 1 *fp* *f*

2 3 *fp* *f*

Hns. 1 2 *fp* *f*

Trbs. 1 *fp* *mf*

2 3 *fp* *mf*

Euph. *p* *mf*

Tuba *mf*

(plastic mallets) *fp* *mf*

Bells *f* *mf*

Perc. 1 *fp* *mf*

Perc. 2 *p* *ff* *mf* Tambourine

Timp. *fp* *f*



This page contains the musical score for measures 21, 22, and 23. The instruments listed on the left are:

- Fls./Picc. (1st and 2nd staves)
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Bsn. (Bassoon)
- Cls. (1st and 2nd Clarinets)
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- A. Saxes (1st and 2nd Alto Saxophones)
- T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone)
- Bar. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone)
- Tpts. (1st and 2nd Trumpets)
- Hns. (Horn)
- Trbs. (1st and 2nd Trombones)
- Euph. (Euphonium)
- Tuba
- Bells
- Perc. 1
- Perc. 2
- Timp. (Timpani)

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (mf, a2), articulation (>), and phrasing (arcs). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

Fls./Picc. 1/2 *a2* +Picc.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1

2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1/2 *a2*

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1

2/3

Hns. 1/2 *f*

Trbs. 1

2/3

Euph. *f*

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 2 *p*

Timp. *p*

27

Fls./Picc. 1 2

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Cls. 1 2 3 *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Saxes 1 2 *f*

T. Sax. *f*

Bar. Sax. *f*

27

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2

Trbs. 1 2 3 *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Bells

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *ff*

Timp. *ff*

ff

27 28 29 30 31

Fls./Picc. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2

Trbs. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

fp *ff* *mp* *f*

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39

Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1/2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

mp

mf

mf

mf

mf

Wind Chimes

Sus. Cym. w/sticks

mf

mp

a2

a2

Fls./Picc. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2

Trbs. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

mp

mf

mf

mp

mp

mf

mp

mp

mf

p *mf*

soft mallets

Tamb.

Fls./Picc. 1/2 *mp* *-Picc.* 55

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1/2/3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1/2 *mf* *a2*

T. Sax. *mf*

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3 55

Hns. 1/2 *a2*

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells *mp*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf* Wind Chimes

Timp.

50 51 52 53 54 55



Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1

2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1

2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1

2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

Fls./Picc. 1 2 *a2* **63** *mf* **rall.**

Ob. *mf*

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2 *a2*

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax. *mp* **63** **rall.**

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2 *a2*

Trbs. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *p* *mf* *p*

Timp.

72 Rubato

Fls./Picc. 1 2

Ob. Solo *mf*

Bsn. *p* *f* *p*

Cls. 1 *mf* (Ob. Solo)

2 3 *a2*

B. Cl. *p* *f* *p*

A. Saxes 1 2 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

T. Sax. *p* *f* *p*

Bar. Sax.

72 Rubato

Tpts. 1 *p* *f* *p*

2 3 *p* *f* *p*

Hns. 1 2 *p* *f* *p*

Trbs. 1 *p* *f* *p*

2 3 *p* *f* *p*

Euph. *p* *f* *p*

Tuba *p* *f* *p*

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 Wind Chimes *mf* *mf* *p* *f*

Timp.

77 Gently ♩ = 77

Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob. One player

Bsn. *mf* Tutti *p* *ff* *p*

Clars. 1 *p* *ff* *mf* One player
2 *p* *ff* *mf* 2. One player
3 (-3) *mf*

B. Cl. *p* *ff* *p*

A. Saxes 1/2 *mf* *ff*

T. Sax. *p* *ff*

Bar. Sax. *p* *ff*

Tpts. 1 Solo *mf* One player *ff*
2 *mf* (-3) *ff*
3

Hns. 1/2 *p* *mf* *ff* (Euph.) *mf*

Trbs. 1 *f* *ff*
2 *mf* *f* *ff*
3 *mf* *f* *ff*

Euph. *mf* *f* *ff* Solo *mf*

Tuba *f* *ff*

Bells *p*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 Wind Chimes dampen *mf* *p* *mf*

Timp. *p*

77 78 79 80 81 82 *p* 83 84

Fls./Picc. 1/2 *rall.* **87** A Tempo ♩ = 72 *mf* *Tutti*

Ob. *mf* *Tutti*

Bsn.

Cls. 1 *Tutti* *p*

2/3 *Tutti* *p* +3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1/2 *Solo* *mf*

T. Sax. *p*

Bar. Sax. *p*

Tpts. 1/2/3 *rall.* **87** A Tempo ♩ = 72

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *p* *mp* *mp* (w/sticks)

Timp. *p* *mp* *mp*



Musical score for symphony orchestra, measures 91-95. The score is in B-flat major and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Poco più mosso' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats per minute. A rehearsal mark '95' is present at the beginning of measure 95. A large red watermark is overlaid on the score, reading 'Preview! Legal Use Requires Purchase'. The score includes parts for the following instruments: Fls./Picc., Ob., Bsn., Cls., B. Cl., A. Saxes, T. Sax., Bar. Sax., Tpts., Hns., Trbs., Euph., Tuba, Bells, Perc. 1, Perc. 2, and Timp. Dynamic markings include *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *Tutti*. Percussion parts include Triangle (*mp*), soft mallets (*p* to *f*), and Timp. A 'Play' instruction is located above the Horns part in measure 95.

91 92 93 94 95

Fls./Picc. 1/2 *p* *mf* *mf* *rall.*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *p*

Cls. 1 *mf* *mf*

B. Cl. 2/3 *mf*

A. Sax. 1/2 *mf* *Solo*

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3 *p* *rall.*

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3 *mf* *Solo*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba

Bells *p*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf* *Wind Chimes*

Timp. *Tri. mp*

102 103 *p* 104 105 106 107 108



109 Tempo I ♩ = 152

Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1/2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

109 Tempo I ♩ = 152

Tpts. 1/2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

Fls./Picc. 1/2 +Picc. Tutti

Ob. Tutti

Bsn.

Cls. 1/2/3 Tutti

B. Cl. Tutti

A. Sax. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3 mp

Hns. 1/2 a2

Trbs. 1/2/3 a2

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp. p

119

Fls./Picc. 1/2 *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *ff*

2/3 *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Saxes 1/2 *Tutti a2 ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

Bar. Sax. *ff*

119

Tpts. 1 *ff*

2/3 *ff*

Hns. 1/2 *ff*

Trbs. 1 *ff*

2/3 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Bells

Perc. 1 *ff*

Perc. 2 *ff*

Timp. *ff* Cr. Cyms. *p*

Fls./Picc. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2

Trbs. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

sfz, *f*, *ff*, *fp*, *p*, *mp*, *f*, *ff*, *a2*, *v*, *v2*, *v3*, *v4*, *v5*, *v6*, *v7*, *v8*, *v9*, *v10*, *v11*, *v12*, *v13*, *v14*, *v15*, *v16*, *v17*, *v18*, *v19*, *v20*, *v21*, *v22*, *v23*, *v24*, *v25*, *v26*, *v27*, *v28*, *v29*, *v30*, *v31*, *v32*, *v33*, *v34*, *v35*, *v36*, *v37*, *v38*, *v39*, *v40*, *v41*, *v42*, *v43*, *v44*, *v45*, *v46*, *v47*, *v48*, *v49*, *v50*, *v51*, *v52*, *v53*, *v54*, *v55*, *v56*, *v57*, *v58*, *v59*, *v60*, *v61*, *v62*, *v63*, *v64*, *v65*, *v66*, *v67*, *v68*, *v69*, *v70*, *v71*, *v72*, *v73*, *v74*, *v75*, *v76*, *v77*, *v78*, *v79*, *v80*, *v81*, *v82*, *v83*, *v84*, *v85*, *v86*, *v87*, *v88*, *v89*, *v90*, *v91*, *v92*, *v93*, *v94*, *v95*, *v96*, *v97*, *v98*, *v99*, *v100*

29477

123

124

125

126

G to F

127 -Picc.

Fls./Picc. 1 2 *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cls. 1 2 3 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes 1 2 *mf* *a2* *f*

T. Sax. *mf*

Bar. Sax. *mf*

127

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2 *a2* *f*

Trbs. 1 2 3 *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

(w/sticks)

Perc. 2 *mf*

Timp.

Fls./Picc. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2

Trbs. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells (plastic mallets)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

mf

f

f
a2

Fls./Picc. 1/2 +Picc.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1/2

B. Cl. 2/3

A. Saxes 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

(soft mallets)

Perc. 2

Timp.

Tamb.

f

ff

mf

p

mf

136

136

137



Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1/2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

f

a2

a2

Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1/2/3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

ff

fp

mf

sfz

a2

144

Fls./Picc. 1/2 *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Clas. 1 *ff*

2/3 *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Saxes 1/2 *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

Bar. Sax. *ff*

144

Tpts. 1

2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1 *ff*

2/3 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Bells

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *ff*

Timp. *ff*

144 145 146 147 148

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Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob.

Bsn.

fp *ff* *f*

Cls. 1/2/3

B. Cl.

fp *ff* *f*

A. Saxes 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

fp *fp* *fp*

Tpts. 1/2/3

ff *ff*

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tuba

fp *fp*

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

ff *f* *p* *ff* Tri.



Fls./Picc. 1/2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

2/3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1

2/3

Hns. 1/2

Trbs. 1

2/3

Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

The image shows a page of a musical score for a large ensemble. The instruments listed on the left are: Fls./Picc. (1/2), Ob., Bsn., Cl. (1, 2/3), B. Cl., A. Sax. (1/2), T. Sax., Bar. Sax., Tpts. (1, 2/3), Hns. (1/2), Trbs. (1, 2/3), Euph., Tuba, Bells, Perc. 1, Perc. 2, and Timp. The score is written in a standard musical notation with various dynamics such as *f*, *ff*, and *ff*. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page, reading "Preview Only" and "Legal Use Requires Purchase". At the bottom of the page, there are page numbers 153, 154, 155, and 156, and a reference number 29477.

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