

MUSIC FOR BRASS

BY

PETER GRAHAM

Force of Nature

**Concerto for
Euphonium and Piano**

Gramercy Music (UK)

PO Box 41 • Cheadle Hulme • Cheshire SK8 5HF

Tel./Fax: + 44 (0) 161 486 1959

www.gramercymusic.com

email: info@gramercymusic.com

Programme Note

In his writings Ernest Hemingway defined the American hero for a generation. He created a new type of fictional character - a “man’s man” - a hard drinking pugilist who enjoyed bullfights, big game hunting, deep-sea fishing and other “macho” pursuits. In many respects Hemingway was the living embodiment of his creation, though his somewhat idealised life ended in suicide on July 2nd 1961 and the chapter on this **Force of Nature** came to a close. The concerto reflects upon moments in this extraordinary life.

I - Matador – the traditions of the Spanish bullfight fascinated Hemingway. He wrote frequently on the subject, going beyond the superficial and exploring at a deeper level the nature of fear and courage. This flamenco-inspired music equally contrasts moments of uncertainty and resolve.

II – Wayfarer (*Reflections on Poor Wayfaring Stranger*) – the tensions of Hemingway's early life in the midwest suburb of Oak Park (a town he reputedly described as “narrow-minded”) fuelled his wanderlust. At the age of 18 he arrived at the Italian Front, serving as an ambulance driver. Within days he was seriously wounded and the horrors of war put paid to adolescent illusions of immortality.

III - Pilar - Hemingway's beloved boat *Pilar* could cut through the waves off the coast of Cuba at sixteen knots full-out. The music conjures up the thrill of the chase as the great fish hoves into view.

Force of Nature was written for David Childs.

Peter Graham

About the composer

Born in Scotland, Peter Graham read music at Edinburgh and London Universities (Goldsmiths’ College). His music for brass and wind is performed across the globe, from China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea and Singapore in the Far East, across North and South America and in every major European country.

Awards include the *American Bandmasters Association/Ostwald Award* for Original Composition for Symphonic Winds, the *President's Award* (from both the National Association of Brass Bands America and the Scottish Brass Band Association) and the *Iles Medal* of the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

Force of Nature (duration c. 14:00 mins)
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For David Childs

Force of Nature

Concerto for Euphonium

I - Matador

PETER GRAHAM

In free time

Euphonium B♭

Piano

f *mp* *f*

Ped.

5

Euph.

Pno.

f *p cresc.*

3 6

A

Ped.

8

Euph.

Pno.

f *mp* *rall.*

3

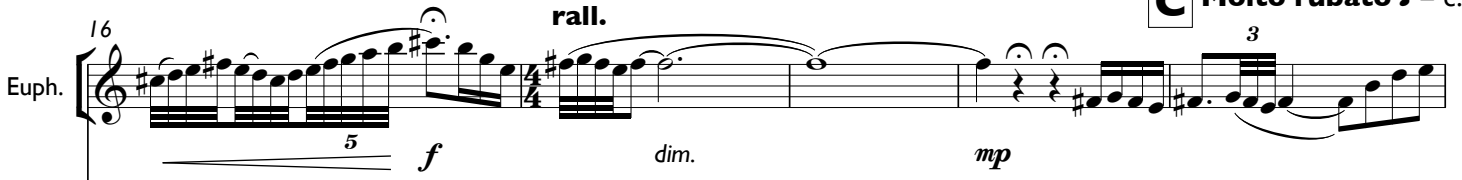
Ped.

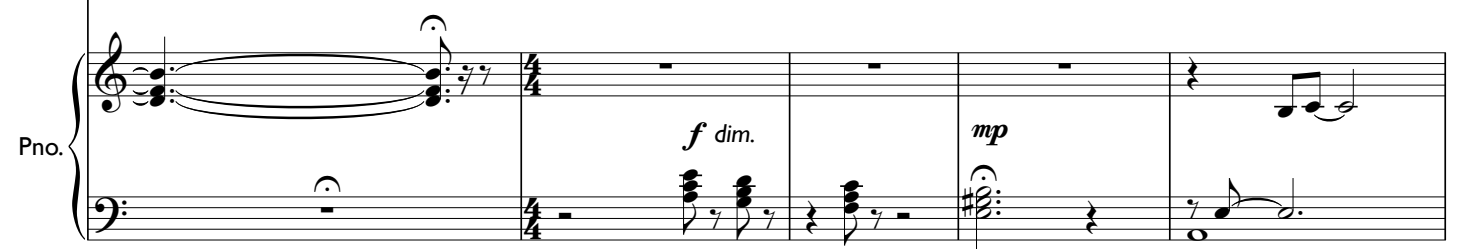
B Tempo ♩ = c.68

Euph. 

Pno. 

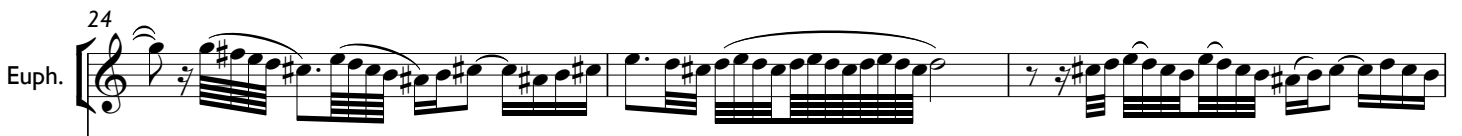
C Molto rubato ♩ = c.60


Euph. 

Pno. 

Euph. 

Pno. 

Euph. 

Pno. 

55

Euph.

Pno.

G Allegro $\text{♩} = \text{c.}63$

60

Euph.

Pno.

H

67

Euph.

Pno.

72

Euph.

Pno.

I **Energico** ♩ = c.76

76

Euph. *f* *mp*

Pno. *f* *mp*

78

Euph.

Pno.

80

Euph. *f* *mf*

Pno. *f*

J

82

Euph.

Pno. *mf*

107

Euph.

Pno.

109

Euph.

Pno.

110

Euph.

Pno.

f

112

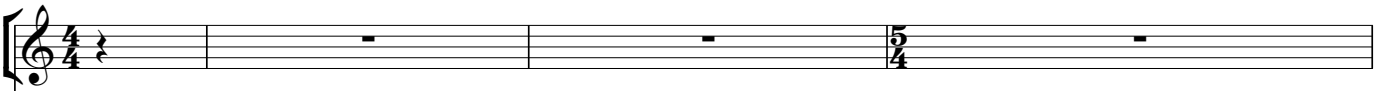
Euph.

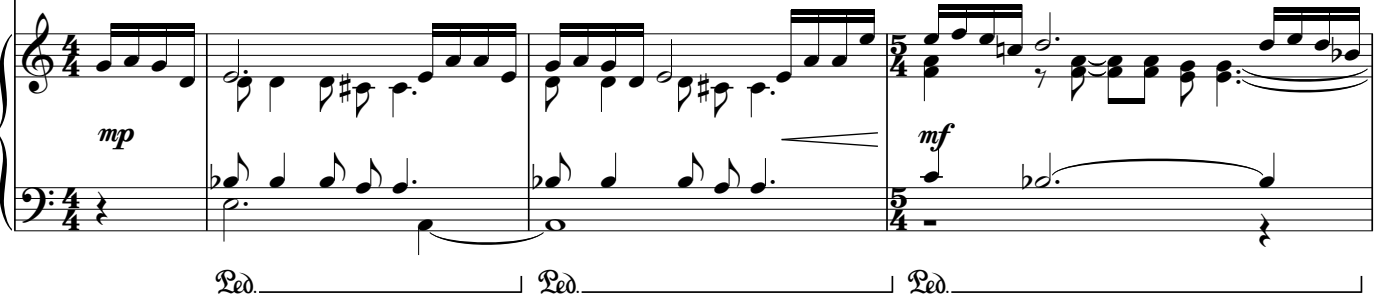
Pno.


II - Wayfarer

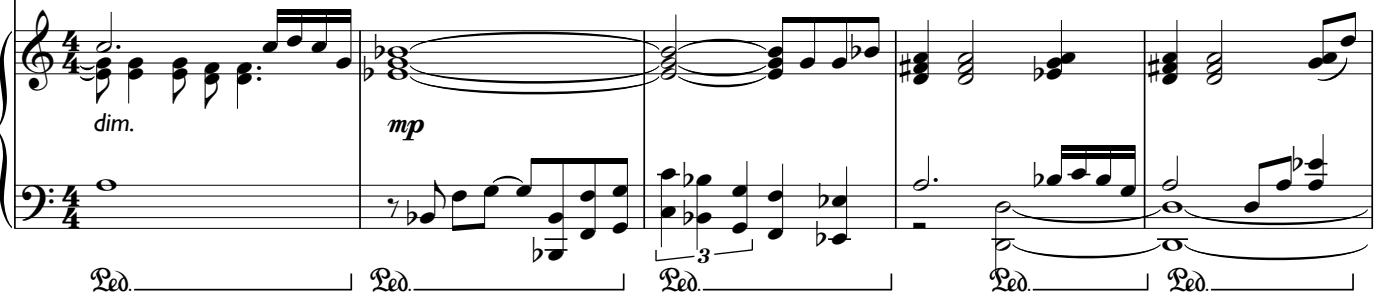
(Reflections on Poor Wayfaring Stranger)

Mesto e cantabile ♩ = c.63

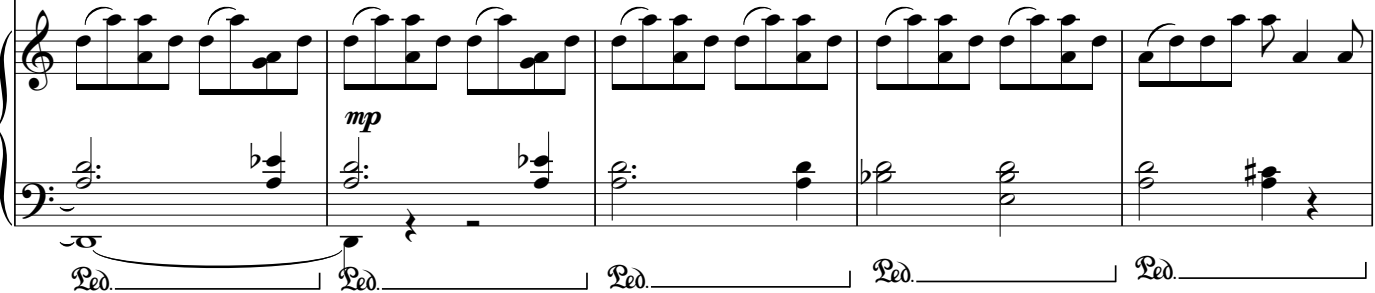
Euph. 

Pno. 

Euph. 

Pno. 

Euph. 

Pno. 

14 **B**

Euph.

Pno.

mf

Ped.

19

Euph.

Pno.

mp

Ped.

25

Euph.

Pno.

Ped.

30 **C**

Euph.

Pno.

Ped.

III - Marlin

Con brio ♩ = c.152

A

Euph.

Piano score for measures 1-7. The Euphonium part starts with a rest in measures 1-3, then enters in measure 4 with a melody marked *mf*. The Piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and a bass line with chords and eighth notes in the left hand. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*.

Euph.

8

Piano score for measures 8-14. The Euphonium part continues its melodic line, marked *f* in measure 10. The Piano accompaniment maintains the rhythmic pattern, with dynamics ranging from *f* to *mf*.

B

Euph.

15

Piano score for measures 15-20. The Euphonium part continues its melodic line, marked *mp*. The Piano accompaniment continues with the established rhythmic pattern, marked *mp*.

21

Euph.

Pno.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 26. The Euphonium part (Euph.) is written in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including some rests. The Piano part (Pno.) is written in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The right hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment, while the left hand provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

27

Euph.

C

Pno.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 27 through 32. The Euphonium part (Euph.) continues its melodic line, with a box labeled 'C' above measure 28. The Piano part (Pno.) maintains its accompaniment, with some changes in chord voicings and dynamics.

33

Euph.

mf

Pno.

mf

Detailed description: This system contains measures 33 through 38. The Euphonium part (Euph.) has a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) starting in measure 34. The Piano part (Pno.) also has a dynamic marking of *mf* in measure 34. The accompaniment becomes more complex with some chords and rests.

39

Euph.

mp 4 4 *mf*

Pno.

mp *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 39 through 44. The Euphonium part (Euph.) starts with a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) and features a four-measure rest in measure 39, followed by a four-measure melodic phrase. A dynamic marking of *mf* appears in measure 41. The Piano part (Pno.) has a dynamic marking of *mp* in measure 39 and *mf* in measure 41. The accompaniment includes some chords and rests.

Euph. *mp* 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

Pno. *mp* 2 2 2 2

Euph. *mf mp mf* 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

Pno. *mf* 2 2

E

Euph. 4 4 *f*

Pno. *f* 2

Euph. *mf*

Pno. *sfz*

216

Euph.

Pno.

mf

223

Euph.

Pno.

mf

230

Euph.

Pno.

cresc.

236

S

Euph.

Pno.

Con brio ♩ = c.152

f

mp subito

Ped.

243

Euph.

Pno.

T **Piu mosso** ♩ = c.160

249

Euph.

Pno.

cresc.

f

Red.

ossia

mp

mp

Euph.

Pno.

fp

f

8vb

Red.

Red.

262

Euph.

f

Pno.

f

ff