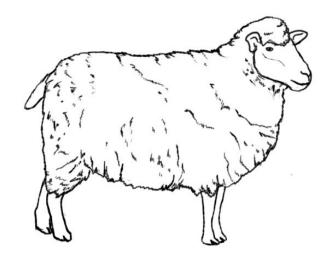
Independent People

For Symphonic Band

Duration: 8'30"



Instrumentation

1 piccolo, 6 flutes, 2 oboes, 6 clarinets in B, 1 bass clarinet in B, 2 bassons

2 alto saxophones, 1 tenor saxophone, 1 baritone saxophone

4 horns in F, 3 trumpets in B, 3 trombones, 1 euphonium, 1 tuba, 1 String Bass

Percussion section (3 percussionists): Timpani, Glockenspiel, Drums (toms, snare drum, bass drum) Percussion instruments (rainstick, cabasa).

Foreword

This piece is inspired by Halldór Laxness's book, Independent People, who is a Nobel Prize winner in 1955. The novel's protagonist, Bjartur, is shepherd. He worked for others in slave-like conditions in his early years, after 18-year slavary, finally got enough money to buy a croft and some sheeps. Bjartur claims, "The man who lives on his own land is an independent man. He is his own master.". Bjartur and his family are poor and life is hard, but what they truly own is "Independence"

"Independence is the most important thing of all in life. I say for my part that a man lives in vain until he is independent. People who aren't independent aren't people. A man who isn't his own master is as bad as a man without a dog." -- Bjartur

This piece is not programmatic. I would like to depict the struggle of being independent. Bjartur is fighting against his slavary; meanwhile, modern liberals are fighting for the same thing.

Performance Notes

The ad lib. feature does not necessarily to be played in strict tempo but play as fast as possible to create a seamless effect; however, rests and slur markings have to be punctuated.

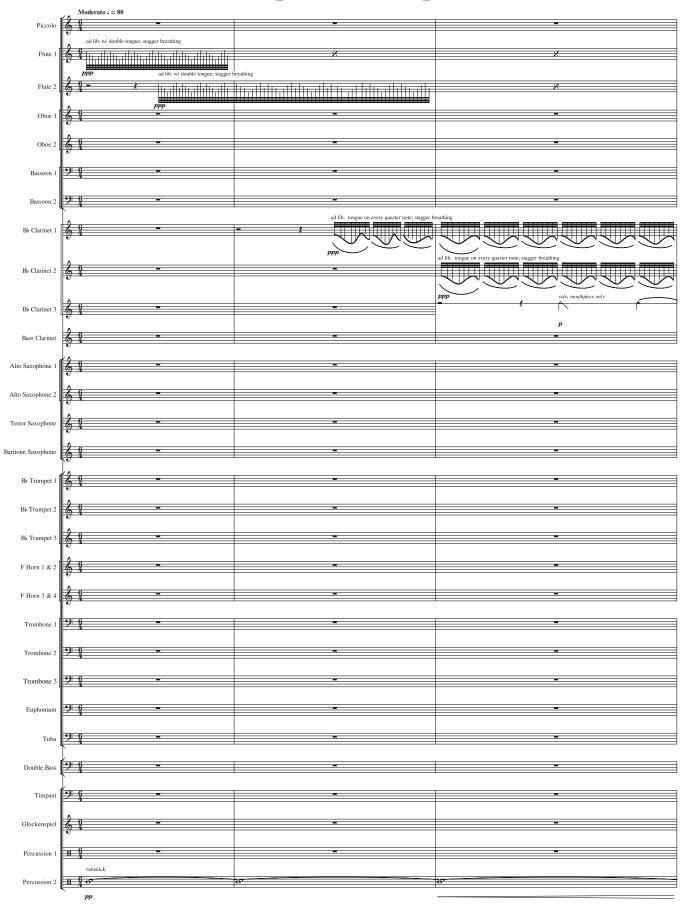
Triangle noteheads should be played as high as possible.

Glockenspiel in mm.81-93 should be minded with the balance in terms of dynamic -- preventing too loud in the band.

Contour in timpani and glockenspiel is notated in approximation and the constant portamento effect is essential.

Reversed triangle noteheads mean slap tongue and be played very percussive with the fingering of the notes.

Independent People

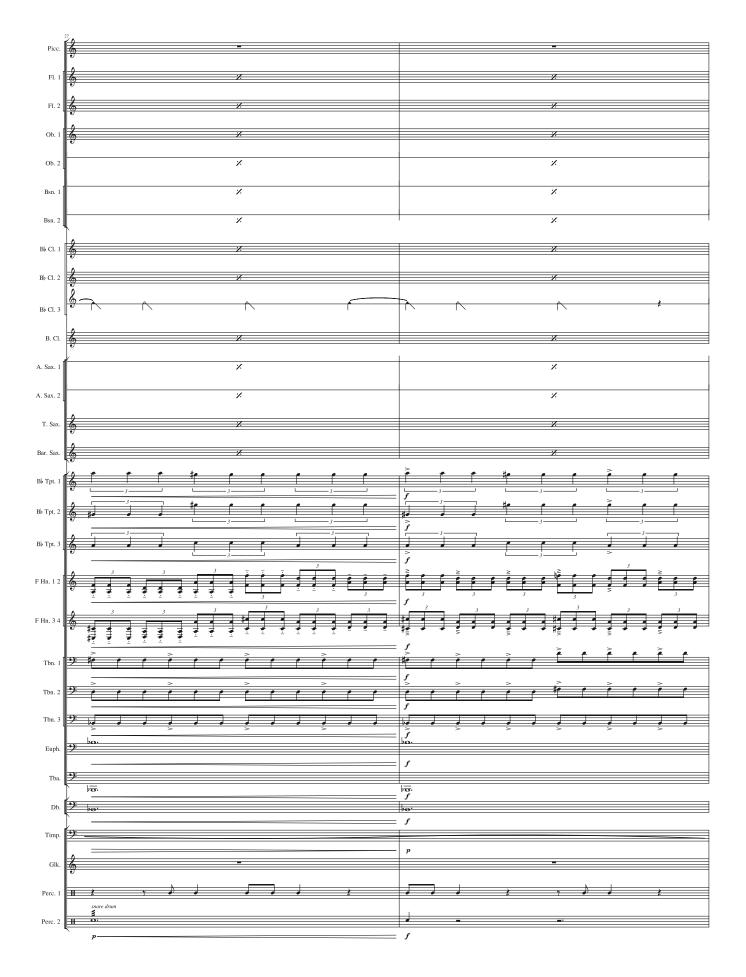




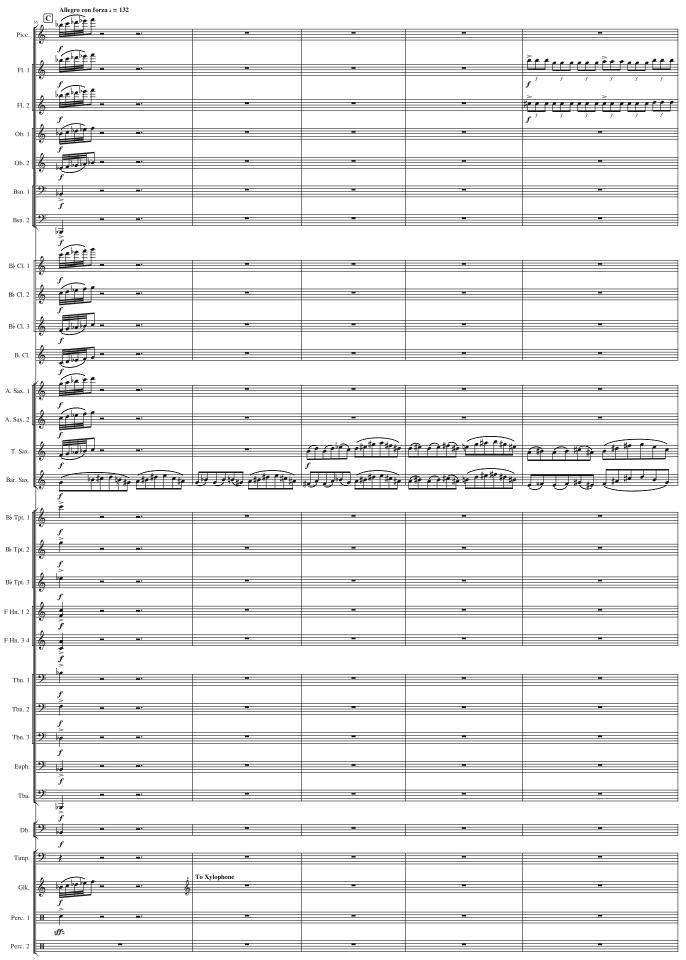














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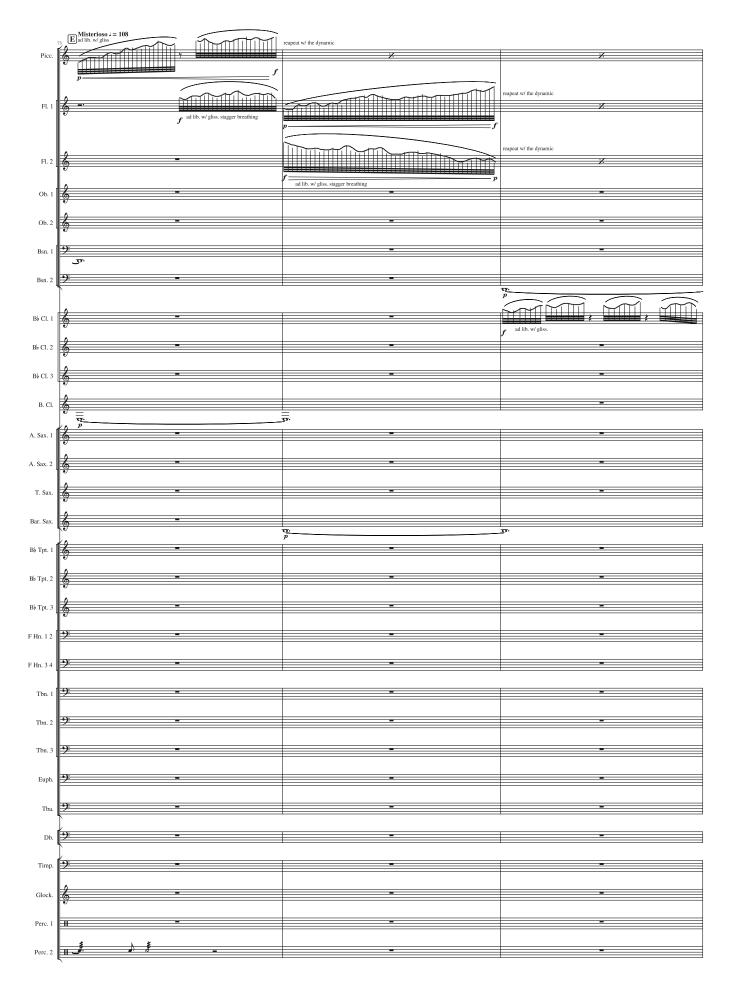


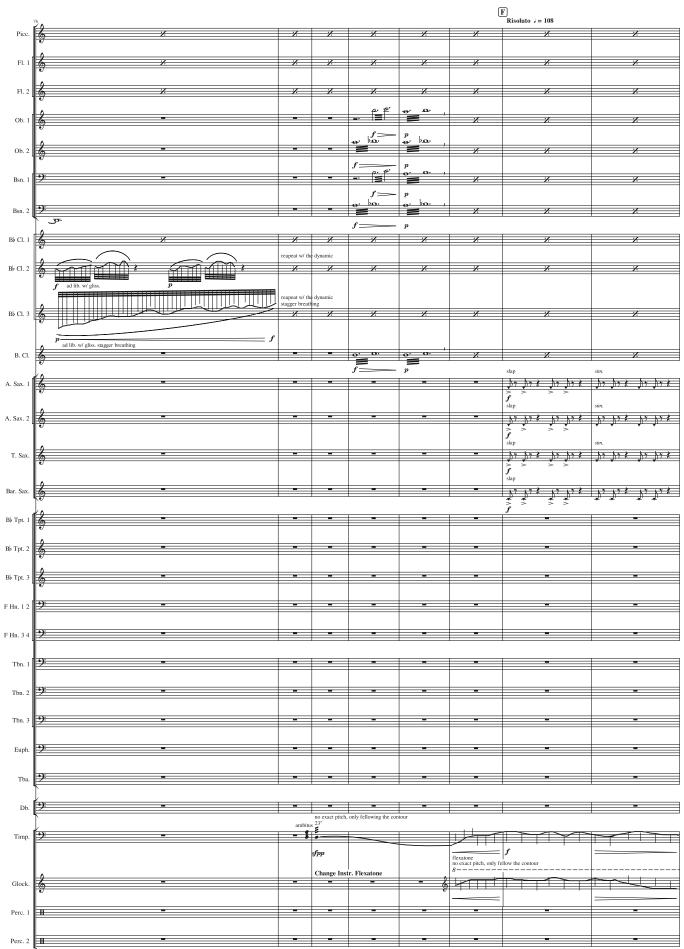




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