

Roger Zare

Lake Michigan Suite

for string orchestra

Commissioned by the Hudsonville High School Chamber Orchestra
Adam Davis, director



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When I was asked to write this piece for Hudsonville High School, I immediately thought about the school's location, in western Michigan, near the center of the old Northwest Territory. I had spent many years of my life living and traveling within this part of the Midwest, and feel closely connected to each of the four states that borders Lake Michigan: Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan.



The first movement, *Pastorale*, is inspired by the prevalence of wide open farmland that can be found sprawling across the Midwest. Driving across seemingly endless swaths of cornfields and dairy farms puts one in a contemplative mood, and the vastness of the landscape is certainly beautiful. I convey this with open harmonies and a yearning melody that always ends inconclusively.

Indiana may be best known as host to the Indianapolis 500. A monolith to the world of motor sports, the formula 1 cars reach speeds of over 230 miles per hour. This movement calls for players to pluck strings so hard they snap against their instruments and slide their fingers around while rapidly trilling to imitate the sound of race cars zooming by.



During the long midwestern winters, the landscape is transformed from a place of fertility to a bleak but beautiful snowscape. This movement recalls the open harmonies of the first movement, but they are transformed to be colder and less welcoming. An extended violin solo is accompanied by the magical sound of harmonic glissandos.

In the 1920s, a migration of musicians from New Orleans put Chicago on the map as one of the jazz capitals of the world. Perhaps the best known artist to move to Chicago was Louis Armstrong. The Chicago jazz style became distinct from its Dixieland predecessor with its specific use of rhythms and focus on solos. This upbeat movement is a raucous party that comes straight out of the roaring twenties!



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Performance notes:

Any of the movements may be played on its own, or any combination of movements may be excerpted.

In the second and fourth movements, the  symbol (Bartók Pizzicato) means to pluck the string so that it snaps against the fingerboard.

In the second movement, the glissandos should last the entire duration of the note they apply to, and the slide should be smooth. These glissandos should create an imitation of the doppler effect, as if you are hearing a race car zooming by. The half-step trills should continue during the glissando.

In the third movement, the harmonic glissandos should all begin at an indeterminate high pitch on the specified string and then slide downward at a quick and even pace. Players should aim to let as many harmonics speak as possible, so a very light touch is necessary.

The fourth movement captures the spirit and style of 1920s Chicago Jazz. Have fun! This style should be played with straight eighth notes, or they should be only very lightly swung if players feel it natural to do so. The scoops should begin before the beat. The x noteheads at rehearsal Z mean for players to slap the string they just plucked to create a mild percussive sound and stop it from vibrating.

The solo section between rehearsals Z and AA presents a few options. The first is to play it exactly as notated, with the solo violin playing first and the solo cello playing second, all as written, before moving on. Another option is to ignore these written out solos and have members of the orchestra either write out their own solos or improvise them on the spot. Each part has the violin and cello solos included as examples, which include the key changes. As in a jazz concert, soloists should stand while playing and expect applause after their solo is finished. The conductor should signal to the orchestra to move on to letter AA when the final soloist is finishing.

Duration: ca. 13'

Grade: 5

For more information, please visit www.rogerzare.com



Commissioned by the Hudsonville High School Chamber Orchestra, directed by Adam Davis

Lake Michigan Suite

I. Pastorale

Roger Zare
(b. 1985)

Gently flowing $\text{♩} = 80$

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass



6

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

A

p warmly

11

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

This musical score page contains five staves for string instruments. The first four staves (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello) are in treble clef, while the bottom staff (Double Bass) is in bass clef. Measure 11 starts with Violin I playing eighth-note pairs. Measures 12-14 show rhythmic patterns involving eighth and sixteenth notes. Measure 15 concludes with dynamic markings **p** for most parts. Measures 12-14 also feature dynamic markings **p**.



16

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

This musical score page continues the string section from the previous page. Measures 16-19 show Violin I playing eighth-note pairs, while the other instruments provide harmonic support with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns. Measures 16-19 conclude with dynamic markings **p**. Measures 20 begins with dynamic markings **v** and **>**, followed by **v** and **>** in measure 21, and **v** and **>** in measure 22.

B

22

Vln. I *pp* div.

Vln. II *pp* with slight pulsation on each downbeat

Vla. *mp cantabile*

Vc. *mp cantabile* pizz.

Db. *p*

Vln. I *pp* div.

Vln. II *pp* div.

Vla. *mp* cantabile

Vc. *mp*

Db. *p*

C

28

Vln. I *mf* sul D

Vln. II *mf* div.

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *f*

Db. *mf*

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf* non div.

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Db. *mf* dim.

34

sul G

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p

41

D

unis. \

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p yearning

sul pont.

pp

unis. \

p yearning

pp

47

E

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

sul pont.
pp

pizz.

p >

53

F

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

mf

mp

div.

sul pont.

f ord. div.

ord.

f

mf

f arco

59

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

=

65 G

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. div.

Db.

71

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

H

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

77

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p

p

p

p

p

82

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

I

pp

pp

with slight pulsation
on each downbeat

pp

mp cantabile

pizz.

pp

p

div.

=

88

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

mp cantabile

mf

v

pp

mf

non div.

div.

non div.

div.

pp

mf

mf

94

J

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p

p

p

p

non div.

div.

solo

rit.

99

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

tutti

non div.

pp

non div.

pp

non div.

(solo)

p *nostalgic*

ppp < *mp* >

II. Speedway

Blazing $\text{♩} = 126$

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

12

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

22 **K**

Vln. I ff pizz.
Vln. II ff pizz.
Vla. ff arco
Vc. ff ff
Db. ff ff

28

Vln. I ff
Vln. II ff arco div.
Vla. ff arco div.
Vc. ff
Db. ff

L

34

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

ff

ff

ff

ff



41

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p ff

p ff

p ff

arco

ff

46

Vln. I sul pont. *p* *f* *tr* *pp*

Vln. II sul pont. *p* *f* *pizz.* *pp* arco sul pont. *b tr*

Vla. *f* sul pont. *p*

Vc. *f* sul pont. *mp*

Db. *f* *mp*

M
ord.

52

Vln. I *f* ord.

Vln. II *f* ord.

Vla. *f* ord.

Vc. *f* ord.

Db. *f* ord.

59

Vln. I

Vln. II

div.

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

65

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

N

unis. ♭

p *f*

70

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

76

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

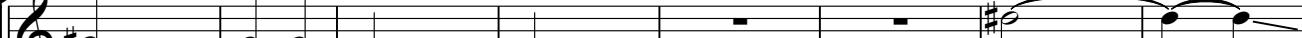
O

80 sul pont.

tr~~~~~ tr~~~~~

tr~~~~~

Vln. I



sfz — p — ff — p —

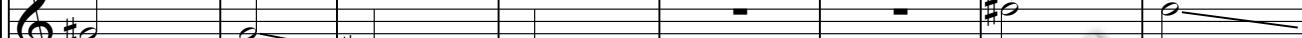
sul pont.

tr~~~~~ tr~~~~~

pp

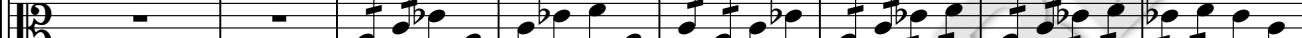
tr~~~~~

Vln. II



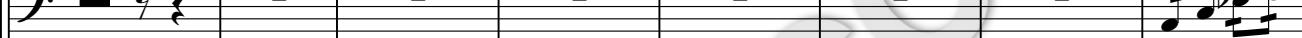
sfz — p — ff — p —

Vla.



>>

Vc.



>>

Db.



p —

=

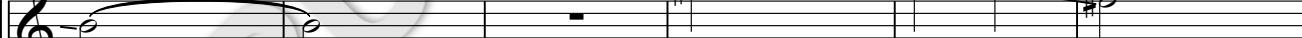
88

tr~~~~~

tr~~~~~

tr~~~~~

Vln. I



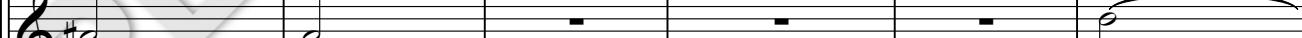
ff — p —

tr~~~~~

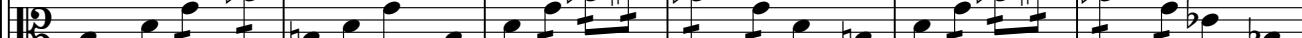
pp

ff

Vln. II

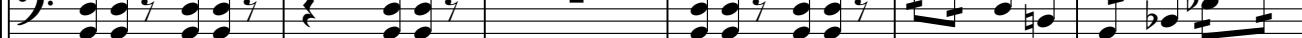


ff — p —



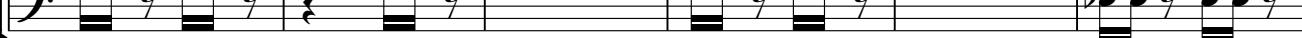
>>

Vc.



>>

Db.



f —

sul A

94 (tr) *p* *pp* *ff* *p*

Vln. I

Vln. II (tr) *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

sul D ²⁻³ *b*

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

100 *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *b*

Vln. I *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff*

Vln. II (tr) *p* *pp* *tr* *ff* *pp*

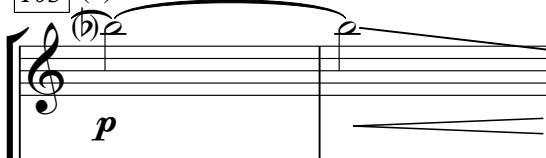
Vla.

Vc.

Db.

P

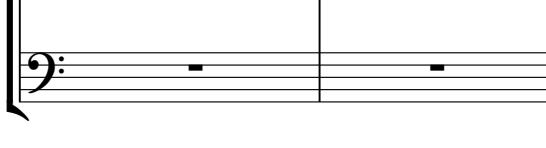
105 (tr)

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Db. 

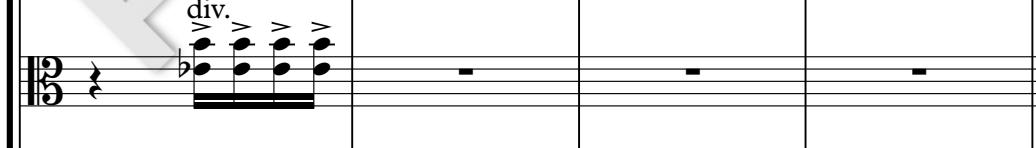
ff

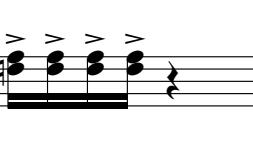
=

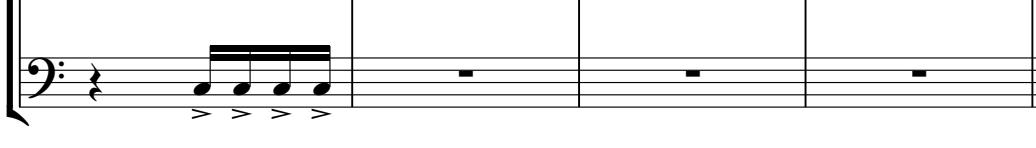
110

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Db. 

> > > >

115

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

120

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

highest pitch possible

sfz — *p* — *ff*

tr — *p* — *ff*

pizz. \circlearrowleft

ff *pizz.* \circlearrowleft

ff *pizz.* \circlearrowleft

ff *pizz.* \circlearrowleft

ff *pizz.* \circlearrowleft

III. Snowscape

Still $\text{♩} = 58$

Vln. I con sord.
div.

Vln. II con sord.
div.

Vla. arco
con sord.

Vc.

Db.

This system shows five staves. Vln. I and Vln. II play eighth-note patterns with dynamic markings *pp*, *mp*, and *pp*. Vla. plays eighth-note patterns with *p* and *mp express.*. Vc. and Db. are silent. Measure numbers 1 and 2 are present above the staves.

7 **Q**

Vln. I *pp* \nearrow *mp* \nearrow *pp* \nearrow *mp* \nearrow *pp* *pp* \nearrow *mp* \nearrow

Vln. II *pp* \nearrow *mp* \nearrow *pp* \nearrow *mp* \nearrow *pp* *pp* \nearrow

Vla. eighth-note patterns

Vc. *arco*
con sord.
mp express.
arco
con sord.

Db. eighth-note patterns *mp express.* $\nearrow \nearrow$ *p*

This system shows five staves. Vln. I and Vln. II play eighth-note patterns with dynamics *pp*, *mp*, and *pp*. Vla. plays eighth-note patterns. Vc. and Db. play eighth-note patterns with dynamics *mp express.*, *arco*, and *con sord.*. Measure number 7 is present above the staves.

R

12

Vln. I *pp* *pp* < *mf* > *pp* *pp* < *mf* > *pp*

Vln. II *mp* — *pp* *mf* *espress.*

Vla. - *mf* *espress.*

Vc. *b2* *mf* > *pp* < *mf* — *pp* *pp* < *mf* — *pp*

Db. *b2* - *pp* < *mf* — *pp* *pp* < *mf* — *pp*

17

Vln. I *pp* < *mf* > *pp* < *mf* — *pp* *p* solo

Vln. II *p* *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Db. *p*

pp < *mf* > *pp* < *mf* — *pp*

26

S (solo)

22

Vln. I

harmonic gliss. sul G

Vln. II

pp harmonic gliss. sul G

Vla.

pp harmonic gliss. sul G

Vc.

pp harmonic gliss. sul G

Db.

pp harmonic gliss. sul G

pp mp pp

p (sul G) o. o.

pp (sul G) o. o.

pp (sul G) o. o.

pp (sul G) o.

pp

26 (solo)

26

Vln. I

f gli altri p f mf

Vln. II

pp mf pp pp p sul C

Vla.

mf pp pp p sul C

Vc.

mf pp pp p

Db.

mf pp pp p

30 (solo)

Vln. I *gli altri* *p* tutti *mp*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

T

pp *mf*

pp

34

Vln. I

Vln. II *pp* *p*

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

pp *mp* *pp* *pp* *mp* *p* *pp* *mf*

pp *mp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

39

U

Vln. I

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *pp*

Vc.

Db.

harmonic gliss. sul A

p

harmonic gliss. sul A

pp

harmonic gliss. sul A

mp

mp

43

Vln. I (sul A)

Vln. II

Vla. (sul A)

Vc. (sul A) *pp*

Db. *pp*

(sul A)

p

(sul A)

p

(sul A)

p

IV. Chicago

Upbeat $\text{J} = 100$
senza sord.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.



6

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

10

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

V

f

f

f

==

14

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

arco

f

RENTAL SOURCE

18

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

22

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p

pizz.

p

p

W

26

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

This musical score page features five staves for string instruments: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Db. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 26 begins with a dynamic of *f*. The Vln. I staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vln. II staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vla. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vc. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Db. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. Measure 27 begins with a dynamic of *f*. The Vln. I staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vln. II staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vla. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vc. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Db. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes.



30

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

This musical score page features five staves for string instruments: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Db. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 30 begins with a dynamic of *f*. The Vln. I staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vln. II staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vla. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vc. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Db. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. Measure 31 begins with a dynamic of *f*. The Vln. I staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vln. II staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vla. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vc. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Db. staff has eighth-note patterns with grace notes.

34

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

X

pizz.

p

marco

p

p

38

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

42

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

arco

p

f

mp

f

mp

f

mp

f

mp

f



46 Y

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p

p

f

f even more raucus

f

f

50

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

54

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

58

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

SOLO SECTION:

The section between m. 62 and m. 85 can be played using the suggested violin and/or cello solos

Z OR orchestra members can improvise solos or compose them in advance. The key changes are provided. The conductor should give a signal near the end of the final solo to indicate to move on.

62

Solo Vln.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

F G⁷ C⁷ F⁷
(Play only first time:)

(Play only second time:)

p

p

p pizz. percussive stop with r.h.

p percussive stop with r.h.

67

Solo Vln.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

B \flat 7 F7

71

Solo Vln.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

B \flat 7 G7

75 C⁷ F⁷ B_b⁷

Solo Vln.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p

79 D⁷ Gm⁷

Solo Vln.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p

83

Solo Vln.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

G⁷

C⁷

AA

86 arco

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

fraucus

(pizz.)

arco

fraucus

(pizz.)

f

(pizz.)

f

f

90

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

This section contains five staves representing different instruments. Vln. I and Vln. II play eighth-note patterns. Vla. and Vc. play sustained notes. Db. plays eighth-note patterns. Measure 90 ends with a fermata over Vln. II. Measures 91-93 show continuation of these patterns, with measure 93 ending with a fermata over Vln. II.

BB

94

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

This section contains five staves. Vln. I and Vln. II play eighth-note patterns. Vla. and Vc. play sustained notes. Db. plays eighth-note patterns. Measure 94 begins with a forte dynamic (f). Measures 95-96 continue the patterns. Measure 97 concludes with a forte dynamic (f) and an arco instruction over the Vc. staff.

98

Vln. I

Vln. II *f*

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

CC

102

Vln. I

Vln. II *p sub.*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p sub.*

Db. *p*

107

Vln. I *cresc. poco a poco*

Vln. II *cresc. poco a poco*

Vla. *cresc. poco a poco*

Vc. *cresc. poco a poco*

Db. *cresc. poco a poco*

111

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *ff* arco

Vc. *ff*

Db. *ff*

DD

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

115

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

PERCIAL

119

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

PERCIAL

EE

122

Vln. I ff

Vln. II ff

Vla. ff

Vc. ff

Db. ff

126

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

pizz.

ff

pizz.

ff

pizz.

ff

ff

gliss.

ff