

HENRY COWELL

Air and Scherzo

*for Alto Saxophone  
and Small Orchestra*

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## **INSTRUMENTATION**

**1 - Alto Saxophone in E $\flat$**

**2 - Flute**

**1 - Oboe**

**2 - Clarinet in B $\flat$**

**1 - Bassoon**

**5 - Violin 1**

**5 - Violin 2**

**3 - Viola**

**3 - Cello**

**3 - Bass**

for Sigurd Rascher

# Air and Scherzo

for Alto Saxophone and Small Orchestra

Orchestra arrangement  
by the composer (1963)

## Air

Henry Cowell  
(1961)

Andante

The first system of the musical score includes staves for Flutes (1 and 2), Oboe, Clarinets in Bb (1 and 2), Eb Alto Saxophone, Violins (1 and 2), Viola, and Violoncello. The Flutes, Oboe, and Clarinets are marked with a whole rest. The Eb Alto Saxophone has a whole note with a *pp* dynamic. The Violins play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a *pp* dynamic. The Viola plays a whole note with a *pp* dynamic. The Violoncello plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a *pp* dynamic. The tempo is marked 'Andante'.



The second system of the musical score includes staves for Sax., Vlns. (1 and 2), Vla., and Vcl. The Saxophone part begins with a measure marked '5' and contains a complex rhythmic figure. The Violins continue with their eighth-note pattern. The Viola continues with its whole note. The Violoncello continues with its eighth-note pattern. The tempo is marked 'Andante'.

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10

Sax. *p*

Vlns. 1 *p*

Vlns. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p*

15

Sax. *p*

Vlns. 1 *p*

Vlns. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p*

20

Sax. *p*

Vlns. 1 *p*

Vlns. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p*

Musical score for measures 1-24. The score is for a Saxophone (Sax.), Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vcl.). The key signature is three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The Saxophone part features a complex, fast-moving melodic line with many sixteenth notes. The Violins play a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes. The Viola and Cello provide a steady bass line. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *f* (forte).

Musical score for measures 25-29. The score is for a Saxophone (Sax.), Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vcl.). The key signature is three flats. Measure 25 is marked with *pp* (pianissimo) for the Saxophone and *f* (forte) for the strings. The Saxophone part has a more melodic and sustained character in this section. Dynamics include *pp* and *f*.

Musical score for measures 30-34. The score is for a Saxophone (Sax.), Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vcl.). The key signature is three flats. Measure 30 is marked with *f* (forte) for the strings and *p* (piano) for the Saxophone. The Saxophone part continues with a melodic line. Dynamics include *f* and *p*.

Musical score for Saxophone (Sax.), Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Via.), and Violoncello (Vcl.). The score consists of four staves. The Saxophone part features a melodic line with various ornaments and slurs. The Violins and Viola parts provide harmonic support with rhythmic patterns and slurs. The Violoncello part has a steady bass line. The key signature has two flats and the time signature is 2/4.

Musical score for Saxophone (Sax.), Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Via.), and Violoncello (Vcl.), measures 35-40. The score consists of four staves. Measure 35 is marked *pp*. The Saxophone part has a long note with a slur. The Violins and Viola parts have a rhythmic pattern that changes in measure 38. The Violoncello part has a steady bass line. The key signature has two flats and the time signature is 2/4. Performance markings include *poco accel.*, *cresc.*, and *p cresc.*.

Musical score for Flutes (Fls. 1 and 2), Oboe (Ob.), Saxophone (Sax.), Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Via.), and Violoncello (Vcl.), measures 40-45. The score consists of six staves. The Flutes, Oboe, and Saxophone parts have a rhythmic pattern with triplets. The Violins and Viola parts have a steady bass line. The Violoncello part has a steady bass line. The key signature has two flats and the time signature is 2/4. Performance markings include *Allegretto*, *f*, and *va...*.

Musical score for the first system, measures 43-45. The instruments are Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Clarinets 1 & 2, Saxophone, Violins 1 & 2, Viola, and Violoncello. The Flute and Oboe parts feature complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and slurs. The Saxophone part has a melodic line with a dotted line above it labeled '8va'. The string parts are mostly rests. Dynamics include 'f' and '8va'. The number '45' is written above the Flute and Saxophone staves.

Musical score for the second system, measures 46-48. The instruments are Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Clarinets 1 & 2, Saxophone, Violins 1 & 2, Viola, and Violoncello. The Flute, Oboe, and Clarinet parts have melodic lines with slurs and triplets. The Saxophone part has a melodic line with a slur. The string parts are mostly rests. Dynamics include 'mf'. The numbers '1.' and '2.' are written above the Flute and Oboe staves respectively. The number '45' is written above the Saxophone staff.





60

Fls. 1/2

Ob.

Cls. 1/2

Sax.

*8<sup>va</sup> ad lib.*

*f*

60

Vlns. 1/2

Vla.

Vcl.

65

Ob.

Cls. 1/2

Sax.

*mp*

*8<sup>va</sup> ad lib.*

*mp*

65

Vlns. 1/2

Vla.

Vcl.

Musical score for measures 65-70. The score includes parts for Oboe (Ob.), Clarinets 1 and 2 (Cl. 1, 2), Saxophone (Sax.), Violins 1 and 2 (Vlns. 1, 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vcl.). The key signature is B-flat major. The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The saxophone part features a melodic line with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. The woodwinds play rhythmic patterns with triplets and quintuplets. The strings are mostly silent.

Musical score for measures 70-75. The score includes parts for Saxophone (Sax.), Violins 1 and 2 (Vlns. 1, 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vcl.). The tempo is marked *70 Andante*. The saxophone part has a melodic line with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic. The violins play a rhythmic pattern with a *pp* dynamic. The viola and cello parts are mostly silent.

Musical score for measures 75-80. The score includes parts for Saxophone (Sax.), Violins 1 and 2 (Vlns. 1, 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vcl.). The tempo is marked *75*. The saxophone part has a melodic line with a *pp* dynamic. The violins play a rhythmic pattern with a *pp* dynamic. The viola and cello parts are mostly silent.

Sax. *p*

Vins. 1 *p* 80

Vins. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p*

Sax.

Vins. 1

Vins. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Sax. 85

Vins. 1 85

Vins. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

90

Sax. *pp*

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Sax. *p*

Vlns. 1 *p*

Vlns. 2

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p*

95

Sax. *f*

Vlns. 1 *f*

Vlns. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Vcl. *f*

Sax. *pp* *p* 100

Vlns. 1 *f* *p* 100

Vlns. 2 *p*

Vla. *f* *p*

Vcl. *f* *p*

Sax.

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Sax. 105 *p* *pp*

Vlns. 1 105 *p*

Vlns. 2

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vcl. *p* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

div.

# Scherzo (Gay-Sad-Gay)

Allegro (gaily)

Flutes 1 2  
Oboe  
Clarinets in Bb 1 2  
Bassoon  
Eb Alto Saxophone  
Violins 1 2  
Viola  
Violoncello  
Contrabass

*p* *f* *gliss. misurato*  
*mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the musical score. It features staves for Flutes (1 and 2), Oboe, Clarinets in Bb (1 and 2), Bassoon, Eb Alto Saxophone, Violins (1 and 2), Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The tempo is marked 'Allegro (gaily)'. The Eb Alto Saxophone part begins with a dynamic of *p* and includes a glissando marked 'gliss. misurato' leading to a dynamic of *f*. The string parts (Violins, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass) enter with a dynamic of *mf*.



Cls. 1 2  
Sax.  
Vlns. 1 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score. It features staves for Clarinet in Bb (1 and 2), Saxophone, Violins (1 and 2), Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The Clarinet in Bb part begins with a dynamic of *mf*. The Saxophone part has a melodic line with slurs. The string parts continue with their respective parts.

Cls. 2 <sup>10</sup> *mf*

Sax. <sup>10</sup> *gliss.*

Vlins. 1 <sup>10</sup> *mf*

Vlins. 2 <sup>10</sup> *mf*

Vla. <sup>10</sup> *mf*

Vcl. <sup>10</sup> *mf*

Cb. <sup>10</sup> *mf*

Cls. 2 <sup>15</sup>

Bsn. <sup>15</sup> *f*

Sax. <sup>15</sup> *p*

Vlins. 1 <sup>15</sup> *mf* *p*

Vlins. 2 <sup>15</sup> *mf*

Vla. <sup>15</sup> *p*

Vcl. <sup>15</sup> *mf* *p*

Cb. <sup>15</sup>

20

Bsn. *p*

Sax.

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

25

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *p*

Sax. *mf*

Vlns. 1 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vcl. *mf*

Cb.



30

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *mf* *p*

Sax.

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

35

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Sax. *f*

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vcl. *mf*

Cb. *mf*

1. 40

Cls. 2 *mf* *p*

Sax. 40 *p sub.*

Vlns. 1 2

Vla. 1 2

Vcl. Cb.

45

Ob. *f*

Sax. *gliss.* *f*

Vlns. 1 2 *pizz.* *f*

Vla. *pizz.* *f*

Vcl. *pizz.* *f* *arco* *mf*

Cb. *pizz.* *f* *arco* *mf*

50 *rit.* *Fine*

Ob.

Sax.

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

*arco*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

50 *rit.* *Fine*

TRIO

Meno mosso (sadly) 55

*p*

Sax.

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

Meno mosso (sadly) 55

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

55

60

Sax.

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

60

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

60

65

Musical score for measures 65-69. The score includes parts for Saxophone (Sax.), Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The Saxophone part features a melodic line with slurs. The Violins and Viola parts have rhythmic patterns with slurs. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts provide harmonic support with sustained notes and some movement.



70

Musical score for measures 70-74. This section includes parts for Flutes (Fls. 1 and 2), Clarinets (Cls. 1 and 2), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The Flutes and Clarinets parts have melodic lines with slurs and dynamic markings of *p* (piano). The Bassoon part has a melodic line with a slur and a dynamic marking of *p*.

70

Musical score for measure 70, Saxophone part. The Saxophone part has a melodic line with a slur and a dynamic marking of *f* (forte).

70

Musical score for measures 70-74. This section includes parts for Violins (Vlns. 1 and 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The Violins and Viola parts have melodic lines with slurs and dynamic markings of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The Violoncello and Contrabass parts provide harmonic support with sustained notes and some movement.

75

1.

Fis. 1 2

Cls. 1 2

Bsn.

Sax.

Vins. 1 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

*p* *mf* *p* *mf* *mf*

80

1.

Fis. 1 2

Cls. 1 2

Bsn.

Sax.

Vins. 1 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

*p* *p* *p* *mf*

1. 85

Fls. 1 2  
Cls. 1 2  
Bsn.  
Sax.  
Vlns. 1 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*p* *p* *p* *p*

90 Scherzo D.C.

Cl. 1  
Bsn.  
Sax.  
Vlns. 1 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*