

# *Portrait Room*

for Chamber Orchestra

Matt LaBerge



# Instrumentation

FLUTE  
Bb CLARINET  
HORN 1 in F  
HORN 2 in F  
HARP  
PIANO  
SYNTH STRINGS  
SYNTH SNARE DRUM  
VIOLIN 1  
VIOLIN 2  
VIOLA  
VIOLONCELLO  
CONTRABASS

Performance Time: 1:07

Written at the 2015 Palomar Film Music Workshop as an exercise in film scoring, *Portrait Room* is composed to underscore a brief scene from *The Contender*, a film written and directed by Rod Lurie. During the compositional process, I worked extensively under the tutelage of renowned hollywood film composer Larry Groupé who wrote the actual score for the Oscar-nominated film. In this workshop, participants (myself included) were presented with clips from various films/shows with the music removed. From there, we had to compose our own underscoring with nothing but the visual elements and dialogue, just like the actual composers did. Any scene we chose to score was required to be from a film/show we had never seen before so that each composition would be completely original.

The scene for which this composition is written takes place in the portrait room of the White House, where a young politician named Reginald Webster (portrayed by Christian Slater) waits anxiously for his meeting with the President of the United States (portrayed by Jeff Bridges). During this brief scene, young Webster finds himself staring at portraits of the many presidents who have served in office throughout the nation's history. The music is meant to capture his inner emotions, giving a glimpse into what he may be feeling in these moments leading up to his first meeting with the leader the free world.

# Portrait Room

An exercise in film scoring for the  
'portrait room' scene from *The Contender*.

Matthew LaBerge

**8 FREE**

**With Awe and Inspiration**

$\text{♩} = 54$

The score is for a concert piece titled "Portrait Room" by Matthew LaBerge. It is an exercise in film scoring for a scene from "The Contender". The piece is in 8/8 time, marked "8 FREE", with a tempo of 54 beats per minute. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The score includes parts for Flute, Bb Clarinet, Horn 1 in F, Horn 2 in F, Harp, Piano, Synth Strings/Snare Drum, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. A large black triangle is drawn across the first three measures of the woodwind and horn parts, indicating they are silent. The Harp and Piano parts enter in measure 5 with a "Soli" section, marked "dolce" and "mp". The string parts enter in measure 3 with a "Synth Strings" section, marked "n." and "pp". The string parts have dynamics of "espress. p < mp" and "p < mp". The Synth Strings/Snare Drum part has dynamics of "n." and "pp".

3

4

5

6

Portrait Room

4

Fl.

Bb Cl.

Hn 1

Hn 2

Hp

Pno

S.S / S.D.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*Solo*  
*espress. legato mp*

*pp*

*pp*

*n.*

*n.*

*n.*

*p*

*mp < mf*

*mp < mf*

*mp < mf*

*mp < mf*

*mp < mf*

7

8

9

10

# Regal

The musical score is for the piece "Regal" from the "Portrait Room" collection. It is written for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Fl. (Flute):** Enters in the final measure with a *Soli* line, playing a melodic phrase in a *cantabile legato* style at *mp*.
- Bb Cl. (B-flat Clarinet):** Plays a melodic line starting in measure 11, marked *p*, and joins the flute in the final measure with a *Soli* line, also in a *cantabile legato* style at *mp*.
- Hn 1 & 2 (Horns 1 and 2):** Both horns play a similar melodic line starting in measure 11, marked *p*, and join the flute and clarinet in the final measure with *Soli* lines, marked *mf* and *mp* respectively.
- Hp (Harp):** Remains silent throughout the piece.
- Pno (Piano):** Remains silent throughout the piece.
- S.S / S.D. (Snare Drum):** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment, starting with a *n.* (noisy) texture in measure 11 and becoming more rhythmic in the final measures.
- Vln. 1 & 2 (Violins 1 and 2):** Play a sustained melodic line, marked *n.* in measure 11 and *mp* in the final measures.
- Vla. (Viola):** Plays a sustained melodic line, marked *n.* in measure 11 and *mp* in the final measures.
- Vc. (Violoncello):** Plays a sustained melodic line, marked *n.* in measure 11 and *mp* in the final measures.
- Cb. (Cello):** Plays a sustained melodic line, marked *n.* in measure 11 and *mp* in the final measures.

Large numbers "2" and "4" are placed over the first and second measures of the woodwind and string parts, likely indicating rehearsal or performance cues.

11

12

13

14

Portrait Room

6

Fl.

Bb Cl.

Hn 1

Hn 2

Hp

Pno

S.S / S.D.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*mf* *p*

*mf* *p*

*mf* *p*

*mf* *p*

*mf* *p*

*Soli* *mf*

*Soli* *mf*

*mf* *n.*

*mf* *n.*

*mf* *n.*

*mf* *n.*

*mf* *n.*

*mf* *n.*

15

16

17

18