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Piano Concerto "Pacific"

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Piano Concerto
"Pacific"

Luke Gullickson
Instrumentation

Flute 1 (doubling on Piccolo)
Flute 2
Oboe 1
Oboe 2
Bb Clarinet 1
Bb Clarinet 2 (doubling on Bass Clarinet)
Bassoon
F Horn 1
F Horn 2
C Trumpet 1**
C Trumpet 2 (doubling on Flugelhorn)*
Trombone*
Bass Trombone
Tuba

Percussion:
Player 1: Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle, Brake Drum,
Wind Chimes (metal), Congas, Chimes
Player 2: Congas, Bass Drum, Shaker, Snare Drum, Triangle,
Castanets, Wind Chimes (metal), Drum Set, Crash Cymbals
Player 3: Tambourine, Vibraphone, Marimba, Bell Tree, Suspended
Cymbal, Shaker, Crash Cymbals
Player 4: Timpani (4 drums):

Piano (solo)
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Double Bass

* Part requires straight mute
** Part requires straight and cup mutes

Note:
Pacific is built in three main sections. The first (the prairie) starts at letter A, the second (the mountains) at letter D after the long piano solo, and the third (the ocean) at letter G, with the quotation from Chopin’s “Ocean” Etude, ending with the Coda at letter H. Each of the main sections has a signature theme, and the rehearsal letters throughout point out the entrances and re-entrances of these and other important themes, which dictate the structure of the piece. The themes are placed throughout to suggest a journey from the Midwest to the Pacific: the geographical changes as well as the personal reflections that accompany travel. The epigraph, from historian Frederick Jackson Turner, is a question regarding the fate of American democratic values after the closing of the frontier, a question that we have yet to answer.

Duration: 11 minutes
Start Slowly, Gradually Accel. and Cresc.
Broadly. $\frac{4}{4} = 138
Poco a poco accel.
"American democracy was born of no theorist's dream; it was not carried in the Sarah Constant to Virginia, nor in the Mayflower to Plymouth. It came out of the American forest, and it gained new strength each time it touched a new frontier."

Frederick Jackson Turner, 1914

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