

**JAMES M. STEPHENSON**

**REFLECTIONS**

**TROMBONE AND PIANO**

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Music

## **Reflections**

for Trombone and Piano

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### **Program Notes from the composer:**

“Reflections” was extracted from “Day-TUDES” (Vol. I) - a series of etudes written for trumpet, each day during the month of February, 2010.

What follows is taken from the original thoughts written on Feb. 17, 2010:

‘Reflections’ has significance on many different levels:

First of all, last night I attended a recital by Bob Sullivan (principal trumpet of the Cincinnati Symphony) here in New York. I realized during the course of the recital that there is no substitute for gorgeous melodies played in a beautiful fashion. This “day-tude”, therefore, is a reflection on that realization, and is nothing more than a simple melody to be played as beautifully as possible.

There is no doubt that this will sound like a movie score, or even a show-tune from a Broadway musical (must be the New York influence this week, because I am staying in the heart of Manhattan, near all of the theaters).

Another reason for this “day-tude” is that I wanted to reflect on my childhood a bit, when my father would sit and play the piano in our hours for hours, pulling out show-tune after show-tune. I could hear his left hand rolling slowly over these chords as I wrote them.”

*(the following, while perhaps interesting, only applies to the original etude):*

There is another play on the word “Reflection” as well. If one studies the solo trumpet part, from rehearsal A to one before G, it will be revealed that the music can also be played upside down and result in (mostly) the same material. (A few octave displacements had to be made to maintain the melodic line).

The piano part was added May 20, 2011, and adapted for trombone in 2019.

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# Reflections

James M. Stephenson

Calmy, pensive (♩ = 60)

The musical score is written for Tuba (Tbn.) and Piano (Pno.). It begins with a tuba part on a single staff, followed by a piano part on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The tempo is marked 'Calmy, pensive' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The piano part starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The score is divided into three systems. The first system covers measures 1-3. The second system starts at measure 4, marked with a box 'A', and includes a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The third system starts at measure 9 and includes a 'poco piu mosso' tempo change and a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C).

13 **B**

Musical score for measures 13-17. Section B. Bass clef, key signature of two flats. Treble clef has chords and arpeggios. Bass clef has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

18 *opt. 8ba* *f*

Musical score for measures 18-22. Section B continues. Includes dynamic marking *f* and *opt. 8ba*.

23 *rit.* **C** *(loco)* **Tempo I** *p*

Musical score for measures 23-27. Section C. Includes markings *rit.*, **C**, *(loco)*, **Tempo I**, and *p*.