

THE TRIAL ORCHESTRATION OF THE CONCERTO IN F

As stated previously, George Gershwin made a "trial" orchestration of the initial section of "CONCERTO IN F." This orchestration was probably done for Walter Damrosch's perusal, comments and criticisms.

Based on the research of Wayne Shirley, Gershwin probably copied this opening section directly into the orchestral manuscript. Mr. Shirley has offered further evidence that the orchestral parts were copied from the trial orchestration as well. There are, however, striking differences between these two musical sources (the trial orchestration vis a vis the orchestral manuscript).

A list of differences between this trial orchestration and the orchestral manuscript, as well as additional historical information, are included in Wayne Shirley's article cited in footnote 5.

This manuscript was acquired by the Library of Congress in 1961. Pages 2-8 are reproduced here.

Handwritten musical score for a symphony orchestra, page 193. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with staves for various instruments on the left side of the page.

Instrument Labels (from top to bottom):

- Flute
- Oboe
- Bassoon
- Clarinet
- Bass Clarinet
- Trumpet 1st & 2nd
- Trumpet 3rd
- Trombone 1st & 2nd
- Trombone 3rd, Trumpet, & Tuba
- Tympani
- Battery (Cymbals, etc.)
- Harp
- Violin I (VI. I)
- Violin II (VI. II)
- Viola
- Cello
- Bass

Key Musical Elements:

- Tempo/Performance Markings:** "Poco Rit." (Poco Ritardando) is written above the Bass Clarinet staff. "poco rit." is written below the Violin II staff. "mf" and "ritempo" are written below the Violin I staff.
- Handwritten Annotations:** "a. tempo" is written in the right margin near the Bass Clarinet staff. A circled number "1" is written in the right margin near the Harp staff.
- Notation:** The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings. The Bass staff features large, sweeping lines indicating sustained notes or glissandi.

George Gershwin

1

Handwritten musical score for a symphony orchestra, page 194. The score includes staves for woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Horns, Clarinets, Bassoon), brass (Trumpets, Trombones, Tuba), percussion (Tympani, Battery), strings (Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, Bass), and Piano Solo. The score is filled with musical notation, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A "Rit." marking is present in the Viola part, and a "2" is written in the Percussion section.

Instrument list on the left side of the page:

- Fl. Pic.
- Ob.
- Horn
- Clar's.
- Bass Cl.
- Bass'ns
- C. Bassoon
- Horns
- 1st & 2nd Trpt's
- 3rd
- 1st & 2nd Tromb's
- 3rd Tromb. & Tuba
- Tymp.
- Battery 3D
- etc. Cym
- Harp
- VI. I
- VI. II
- Viola
- Cello
- Bass
- Piano Solo

Flute

Oboe

Horn

Clarinet

Bass Cl.

Bassoon

Trumpet

Trombone

Tuba

Tymp.

Battery

Harp

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Tewoo

George Gershwin

2

2 FL. Pic.

2 Ob.

2 Horn

Clar's.

Bass Cl.

Bass'ns

E. Bassoon

Horns

1st & 2nd Trpt's 3rd

1st & 2nd Tromb's

3rd Tromb. & Tuba

Tymp.

Battery etc.

Harp

VI.I

VI.II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Piano Solo

2

atempo

George Eastman



Handwritten musical score for a symphony orchestra. The score is written on multiple staves, with various instruments and sections labeled on the left side. The notation includes notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

Instrument Labels (Left Side):

- Fl. Pic.
- Fl.
- Ob.
- Clar. in A
- Bass Cl.
- Bass'ns
- Bassoon
- Horns (1st & 2nd)
- 1st & 2nd Tromb's
- 3rd Tromb. & Tuba
- Symp.
- B.D.
- Battery
- S.N.
- etc. Cym.
- Harp
- V.I. I
- V.I. II
- Voia

Dynamic Markings:

- mf* *crescendo* (Fl. Pic., Fl., Ob., Clar. in A)
- mp* (Clar. in A)
- mf* *crescendo* (Horns)
- p* (Horns)
- mf* *crescendo* (Horns)
- f* (Harp)

Textual Annotations:

- Poco a Poco crescendo - f* (written across the Harp staff)
- mf cresc.* (written above the V.I. I staff)
- mf cresc.* (written above the V.I. II staff)
- mf cresc.* (written above the Voia staff)
- mf cresc.* (written above the bottom staff)
- mf* (written below the bottom staff)

Handwritten Notes:

- Handwritten notes and markings are present on the right side of the page, including a circled '5' and some illegible scribbles.

Long Beach

Mf Poco a Poco Cresc.

Fl. Fl.
 Ob.
 B. Horn
 Clar's.
 Bass Cl.
 Bass'ns
 C. Bassoon
 Hrns
 1st & 2nd Trpt's
 3rd
 1st & 2nd Tromb's
 3rd Trombe & Tub's
 Tymp.
 Battery etc.
 Harp
 VI. I
 VI. II
 Viola
 Cello
 Bass
 Piano Solo

Lucy Barber

Handwritten musical score for the first system. It consists of approximately 12 staves. The notation includes various rhythmic values, accidentals, and dynamic markings such as *ad fl*, *ad vido*, *ad due*, *ad due*, *ad vido*, *f crescendo*, *crescendo*, *f*, *fb*, *fb*, *(h) b*, and *(h) p*. There are also some handwritten annotations like "More more" at the top right and "meno meno" at the bottom right of the system.

these belong on page 9.
(first two bars)

Handwritten musical score for the second system, continuing the notation from the first system. It consists of approximately 12 staves. The notation includes various rhythmic values, accidentals, and dynamic markings such as *f*, *(h) b*, and *(h) p*. There are also some handwritten annotations like "meno meno" at the bottom right of the system.

Gerckwin, George
M. 30
.25a
G. 97 C. 2
C. 2

Handwritten musical score for the first system. It consists of approximately 12 staves. The notation includes various rhythmic values, accidentals, and dynamic markings such as *crescendo* and *ritardando*. There are also some handwritten annotations in the right margin, including the word *Molto* and some numbers.

These belong on page 9
(first two bars)

Handwritten musical score for the second system, continuing the notation from the first system. It features similar musical elements, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The notation is dense and covers about 12 staves. At the bottom right, there is a signature and some numbers.

Geckwin, George
M630
.25a
6976

p poco a poco cresc.

Handwritten musical score for a symphony orchestra, page 200. The score includes parts for Flutes, Clarinets, Bassoon, Trumpets, Trombones, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion, Harp, Violins, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The music is in 3/4 time and features a crescendo. A large section of the score is circled in black, including the Harp part and the beginning of the string parts. The page number 200 is in the top left, and the tempo marking "p poco a poco cresc." is at the top. The score is divided into four measures, numbered 43, 44, 45, and 46 at the bottom. The Harp part has a handwritten "p" and "cresc" marking. The string parts have various dynamics and articulations. The woodwinds have some rests and specific notes. The percussion parts are mostly rests with some rhythmic markings.