

John Casken
Blue Medusa

for bassoon and piano
[2002]

Preview File Only



SCHOTT

Mainz • London • Madrid • New York • Paris • Tokyo • Toronto

For Rosemary Burton, commissioned by her parents for her 18th birthday

First performance

17 July 2003

Rosemary Burton, bassoon

Christopher White, piano

Edward Guinness Hall, Dame Alice Owen's School

Preview File Only

Medusa: creature of the sea, beautiful in form and movement, but dangerous to the touch

Medusa: one of the three Gorgons, her hair a crown of writhing snakes, whose gaze turned men and beasts to stone, and from whose neck sprang the winged horse Pegasus when Perseus cut off her head with a single sweep of his sword

Blue Medusa: a creation, aquamarine, with an energetic sting; a creation, nearing the surface, winging upwards

Performance note: accidentals generally carry through the bar, but only in the same octave register; some are repeated for the sake of clarity

John Casken

Duration: c. 10 mins

Preview File Only

for Rosemary Burton, commissioned by her parents for her 18th birthday

Blue Medusa

John Casken

With an energetic sting $q = 92$

The musical score is written for Bassoon and Piano. It begins in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 92. The score is divided into three systems of measures 1-4, 5-7, and 8.

System 1 (Measures 1-4): The Bassoon part starts with a rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamics include *f*, *ff*, *f < ff*, and *f*. The Piano part features sustained chords in the right hand and moving lines in the left hand. A piano (*P*) marking is present at the end of the system.

System 2 (Measures 5-7): The Bassoon part continues with eighth notes and includes a triplet of eighth notes. Dynamics include *ff* and *f*. The Piano part continues with sustained chords and moving lines. A piano (*P*) marking is present at the end of the system.

System 3 (Measures 8): The Bassoon part features a triplet of eighth notes and continues with eighth notes. Dynamics include *ff* and *f*. The Piano part features a complex texture with many notes in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*. A piano (*P*) marking is present at the end of the system.

12

ff f mf mp

f mf mp mf

poco ped.

15

ff ff f

f f

P P P

18

ff

mf

P P

20

mf ff

f

P P

22 **1**

f *ff*

P P P P P P

24

mf *mp*

mp

P P

26

f *ff*

mf *f* *ff*

P P *f* P

29

mf

ff

f

mf

P

P

32

f

ff

f

f

P

P

P

P

36

mp

mp

mf

mp

P

P

P

P

P

39

f

ff

f

ff

P

42 $q = 84$

mf

f

mf

P v q P

46 rit.

f mp p pp

mp

P v

50 $q = 66$ accel. $q = 84$

f mp

p mp mf mp

P P P P

54

Musical score for measures 54-57. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The bass line starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic, followed by a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic, and ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The grand staff features piano (*p*) dynamics and includes triplets in both hands. A crescendo hairpin is present, leading to a mezzo-piano (*mp*) and mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic range.

58

Musical score for measures 58-60. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. The bass line has mezzo-forte (*mf*) and mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamics. The grand staff has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a piano (*p*) dynamic. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

61

accel.

q = 100

Musical score for measures 61-63. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. The piece is marked with an acceleration (*accel.*) and a quarter note equal to 100 (*q = 100*). The bass line features forte (*f*) dynamics. The grand staff also features forte (*f*) dynamics. The system concludes with a piano (*p*) dynamic. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

64

Musical score for measures 64-67. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. The grand staff features mezzo-piano (*mp*) and forte (*f*) dynamics. The system concludes with a piano (*p*) dynamic. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

67

Musical score for measures 67-70. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff (treble and bass clefs), and a piano part. The piano part features a pedal point 'P' in the bass line. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*. A blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is visible across the score.

70

Musical score for measures 70-72. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff, and a piano part. Dynamics include *ff*. A blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is visible across the score.

73

3

Musical score for measures 73-76. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff, and a piano part. The piano part features triplets in the right hand. Dynamics include *ff*, *f*, and *mf*. A blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is visible across the score.

77

rit. q = 84

Musical score for measures 77-80. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff, and a piano part. The tempo is marked *rit.* and *q = 84*. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *mp*. A blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is visible across the score.