

for Joel Ashford
Comic Book Fanfares
 for Solo Horn in F

MARTIN BUTLER

Precipitato ♩ = 138

Musical score for the 'Precipitato' section, measures 1-16. The music is written for a solo horn in F major. It begins with a 4/4 time signature and a tempo of 138 beats per minute. The score features several triplet figures and dynamic markings including *ff* (fortissimo) and *ffz* (fortissimo with accent). Measure numbers 4, 9, and 13 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

Musical score for the 'Calmo' section, measures 17-29. The tempo changes to 120 beats per minute. The music is written for a solo horn in F major. It features a variety of dynamics including *pp* (pianissimo), *p* (piano), and *ff* (fortissimo). The section includes triplet figures and a *sim., espress.* (simile, expressive) marking. Measure numbers 17, 22, and 27 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

Composer's note: *Comic Book Fanfares* is a 9-minute fantasy for horn, by turns elegiac and broadly comedic. In 1993–4 I wrote a comic opera (called *Craig's Progress*) peopled with comic book characters. The hero, Craig, had his own brand of 'heroic' music—slightly pompous, naive, energetic and youthful—and was 'represented' in the orchestra by the horn, that quintessential sonic icon of heroism. *Comic Book Fanfares* uses a couple of ideas from Craig's music and weaves them into a portrait that's really a fond reminiscence, but also a salute to the heroic in all of us. It was completed in September 2016, and written for Joel Ashford through Third Ear's 'greater than' commissioning initiative.

Duration: 9 mins

31 *p* *animato* *pp*

36 *sf*

39 *sf* *sf* *sf* *sim.*

41 *f*

43 *ff*

46 *calmo* *p* *p*

51 *pp* *ppp* *p* *Animato* ♩ = 138

57 *ff sost.*

61 *meno f* *f* *ff*