

NICHOLAS MAW

Concert Suite

from

SOPHIE'S CHOICE

(2003)

FOR ORCHESTRA

with optional mezzo-soprano

FULL SCORE

FABER *ff* MUSIC

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The opera *Sophie's Choice* is based on the novel *Sophie's Choice* by William Styron
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The first performance of the opera *Sophie's Choice* was given at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden
on 7 December 2002, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle, directed by Trevor Nunn

The *Concert Suite* from *Sophie's Choice* was written for the Peabody Institute.
The first performance was given by the Peabody Symphony Orchestra with mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Healy,
conducted by Hajime Teri Murai, at the Peabody Institute, Baltimore on 24 April 2004

The suite is a direct transcription by the composer from the orchestral
music of the opera. The mezzo-soprano aria may be omitted.

DURATIONS

Including the optional mezzo-soprano aria (Version A) – 24 minutes;
without the aria (Version B) – 22 minutes

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ORCHESTRA

3 flutes (III doubling piccolo)
3 oboes (III doubling cor anglais)
3 clarinets in B♭ & A (III doubling clarinet in E♭)
3 bassoons (III doubling contrabassoon)

5 horns in F
3 trumpets in C
2 tenor trombones
bass trombone
tuba

timpani

percussion (2 players)
side drum, tenor drum, bass drum,
suspended cymbal, clash cymbals, tam-tam, whip

harp

strings

Orchestral parts available on hire from the publishers

MEZZO-SOPRANO ARIA

TEXT

(Sung by the character Sophie)

My Dearest Stingo —

You're such a beautiful lover... I hate to leave. Forgive me for not saying Goodbye, but I must go back to Nathan. You must not think by this I am being cruel – I am so fond of you. But when I woke I was feeling so terrible and in despair about Nathan, so filled with guilt and thoughts of death, it was like ice flowing in my blood, like ice flowing in my blood. So I must be with Nathan again for whatever that mean. I feel so bad, I must go now. Dearest Stingo, I may not see you again... you have meant so much to me...

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from

SOPHIE'S CHOICE

NICHOLAS MAW

Calm and sustained (♩ = 76/80)

Flute 1
2

Piccolo

Oboe 1-3

Clarinet 1-3 in A

Bassoon 1-3

1-2
Horn in F

3-5

Trumpet 1-3 in C

Trombone 1
2

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion

Harp

Mezzo-soprano

Calm and sustained (♩ = 76/80)

Violin I
con sord.
div.
pp

Violin II
con sord.
div.
pp

Viola
con sord.
pp

Violoncello
con sord.
div.
pp

Double Bass
pp

unis.

div.

unis.

1 2

Vln. I *pp* *pp* *p* *poco sf* *p* *poco sf* *pp* *p* *f*

Vln. II *pp* *pp* *p* *poco sf* *p* *poco sf* *pp* *p* *f*

Vla. *pp* *pp* *p* *poco sf* *p* *poco sf* *pp* *p* *f*

Vc. *pp* *pp* *p* *poco sf* *p* *poco sf* *pp* *p* *f*

Db. *pp* *pp* *p* *poco sf* *p* *poco sf* *pp* *p* *f*

div. unis. div.

Vln. I *dim.* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *f*

Vln. II *dim.* *mf* *mp* *unis.* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *f*

Vla. *dim.* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *f*

Vc. *dim.* *mf* *mp* *unis.* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *f*

Db. *dim.* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *f*

div. div.

slow down - **3** in tempo

slow down - **3** in tempo

Viol. I

Viol. II

Viola

Vcl.

Db.

p *pp*

senza sord. unis. *tr*

ppp

unis. *pp*

div. *pp*

senza sord. unis. *tr*

ppp

p *pp*