

Zhou Tian

[b.1981]

SINFONIA

(2022)

- I. Noir
- II. Transit
- III. Arioso
- IV. D-O-N-E

Duration: ca. 20 minutes

Instrumentation*

Piccolo

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

Clarinet in E-flat

4 Clarinets in B-flat

Bass Clarinet

2 Bassoons

Contrabassoon

2 Alto Saxophones in E-flat

Tenor Saxophone in B-flat

Baritone Saxophone in E-flat

4 Trumpets in B-flat

4 French Horns in F

2 Trombones

Bass Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Contrabass

Harp

Piano

Timpani

Percussion (four players)

1. Marimba (5-octave), Xylophone, Glockenspiel, Vibraphone
2. Snare Drum, Bell Tree, Mark Tree
3. Cymbals (suspended, crash)
4. Bass Drum, Tam-tam

*Recommended: more players on clarinets, euphonium, bass trombone, tuba, and contrabass.

Performance materials & licensing

FirstEdition.us

Sound/video samples & complete list of works

ZhouTianMusic.com

Note: the composer's family name is Zhou and his given name is Tian. When only the composer's last name is listed, it should be listed as "Zhou." The full name should be listed as "Zhou Tian."

Sinfonia seeks inspirations from cultures close to my heart and mixes them into four different movements. It begins nostalgically and ends on a hopeful, uplifting note.

I. *Noir*

Grainy films and stylized black-and-white images from the 1940s and 50s inspired this nostalgic throwback. Although it starts brightly, at its core lies the night.

II. *Transit*

New York City. Subway. Rush hour. Each stop opens to a new soundscape. “Say, did I hear Jazz?” Someone asks. “STAND CLEAR OF THE CLOSING DOORS, PLEASE,” New York replies.

III. *Arioso*

Shanghai. Night of the Mid-Autumn Festival. A vocalise was conceived.

IV. *D-O-N-E*

May 10, 1869. Promontory, Utah. A one-word telegraph was sent across the United States in Morse code, announcing the completion of the First Transcontinental Railroad. Now the country was connected as never before: a journey between San Francisco and New York that previously took up to six months now took only days. Some 150 years later, that word, “D-O-N-E,” is transformed here into music using the rhythm of the Morse code. Throughout the finale, the “done” motif is passed back and forth by numerous instruments in the ensemble. An accumulation of materials sends the piece to a climax at the end. This movement was adapted from a movement of my orchestral work “Transcend.”

“D-O-N-E” rhythmic motif, based on the Morse code



Sinfonia was jointly commissioned by a CBDNA consortium consisted of the Michigan State University (Kevin Sedatole), Ball State University (Thomas E. Caneva), Baylor University (Eric Wilson), University of Colorado Boulder (Donald J. McKinney), Florida State University (Richard Clary), Indiana University (Rodney Dorsey), University of Michigan (Michael Haithcock), Ohio State University (Russel C. Mikkelson), Oklahoma State University (Joseph Missal), Purdue University Fort Wayne (Daniel Tembras), University of Texas Austin (Jerry Junkin), Texas Tech University (Sarah McKoin), and Western Michigan University (Scott Boerma). My deepest gratitude goes to Kevin Sedatole, who initiated this project, as well as to all commissioning partners. I had a blast writing this work!

— Zhou Tian

First performed on 30 April 2022,
at Wharton Center for the Performing Arts,
East Lansing, Michigan,
by the Michigan State University Wind Symphony,
conducted by Kevin Sedatole

Consortium premieres
TBA

Transposed Score

to Kevin Sedatole

SINFONIA

for wind ensemble

Zhou Tian

I. Noir

2/4 Maestoso, ritmico ♩ = 66

The score is a transposed score for a wind ensemble. It features the following instruments and parts:

- Piccolo**: Treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*.
- Flute**: Treble clef, 1 and 2 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Oboe**: Treble clef, 1 and 2 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- E♭ Clarinet**: Treble clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- B♭ Clarinet**: Treble clef, 3 and 4 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- B♭ Bass Clarinet**: Treble clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Bassoon**: Bass clef, 1 and 2 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Contrabassoon**: Bass clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- E♭ Alto Sax**: Treble clef, 1 and 2 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- B♭ Tenor Sax**: Treble clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- E♭ Baritone Sax**: Treble clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- F Horn**: Treble clef, 1, 2, 3, and 4 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- B♭ Trumpet**: Treble clef, 1, 2, 3, and 4 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Trombone**: Bass clef, 1 and 2 parts, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Euphonium**: Bass clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Bass Trombone**: Bass clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Tuba**: Bass clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Contrabass**: Bass clef, dynamic markings *ff*, *f*, *sfz*, *ff*.
- Harp**: Treble and Bass clefs, dynamic markings *ff*.
- Piano**: Treble and Bass clefs, dynamic markings *ff*.
- Timpani**: Bass clef, dynamic markings *ff*.
- Percussion 1**: Xyl., Mar., Glock., Vib., dynamic markings *ff*.
- Percussion 2**: S.D., Bell Tree, Mark Tree, T.T., dynamic markings *ff*.
- Percussion 3**: Cymbals, dynamic markings *ff*.
- Percussion 4**: B.D., T.T., dynamic markings *ff*.

3/8 (in 3) 2/4 **A**

Picc.

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

E♭ Cl. 1 2

B♭ Cl. 3 4

B♭ B. Cl.

Bsn. a 2 1 2

C. Bn.

E♭ A. Sx. 1 2

B♭ T. Sx.

E♭ B. Sx.

F Hn. 1 2 3 4

B♭ Tpt. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2

Euph.

Bs. Tbn. Tuba

C.B.

Hp.

Pf.

3/8 (in 3) 2/4 **A**

Timp.

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

B molto accelerando

15

Picc.

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

E♭ Cl. 1 2

B♭ Cl. 3 4

B♭ B. Cl.

Bsn. 1 2

C. Bn.

E♭ A. Sx. 1 2

B♭ T. Sx.

E♭ B. Sx.

F Hn. 1 2 3 4

B♭ Tpt. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2

Euph.

Bs. Tbn. Tuba

C.B.

Pf.

Timp.

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

mf

mf

mf

mf

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

ff pesante

pp

Sus. Cymb.

II. Transit

Allegro, with vigor and clarity $\text{♩} = 144$

Piccolo *sfz* *ff con brio*
 Flute 1 2 *sfz* *ff con brio*
 Oboe 1 2 *sfz* *ff con brio*
 Eb Clarinet *sfz* *ff con brio*
 Bb Clarinet 1 2 *sfz* *ff con brio*
 Bb Bass Clarinet 3 4 *sfz*
 Bassoon 1 2 *sfz*
 Contrabassoon *sfz*
 Eb Alto Sax 1 2 *sfz*
 Bb Tenor Sax *sfz*
 Eb Baritone Sax *sfz*
 F Horn 1 2 *sfz*
 Bb Trumpet 3 4 *sfz*
 Trombone 1 2 *sfz*
 Euphonium *sfz*
 Bass Trombone *sfz*
 Tuba *sfz*
 Contrabass *sfz* pizz.
 Piano *sfz*

Allegro, with vigor and clarity $\text{♩} = 144$

Timpani
 Xylophone *f*
 Percussion 2
 S.D., Bell Tree,
 Mark Tree, T.T. Bell Tree
 fast downward gliss
p
 Percussion 3
 Cymbals Piatti
mf secco
 Percussion 4
 B.D., T.T. B.D.
mf

6

Picc.

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

E♭ Cl.

B♭ Cl. 1 2 3 4

B♭ B. Cl.

Bsn. 1 2

E♭ A. Sx. 1 2

B♭ T. Sx.

E♭ B. Sx.

F Hn. 1 2 3 4

B♭ Tpt. 1 2

Pf.

Timp.

Xyl.

Perc. 2

f con brio

mf — *ff*

mf — *ff*

mf con brio

ff con brio

f secco

f

p

p

A

A

11

Picc.

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

E♭ Cl.

B♭ Cl. 1 2

3 4

B♭ B. Cl.

Bsn. 1 2

E♭ A. Sx. 1 2

B♭ T. Sx.

E♭ B. Sx.

F Hn. 1 2

3 4

Euph.

Bs. Tbn. Tuba

Pf.

Timp.

Xyl.

Perc. 2

ff *mf* *ff* *a 2* *f* *a 2* *f* *a 2* *f* *a 2* *ff* *mf* *ff* *a 2* *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *f* *ff* *mf* *ff* *p*

III. Arioso

3/4 Andante, steady ♩ = 63

Solo
mf *espress. e animato*

p *espress.*

p *espress.*

p *espress.*

p *espress.*

p *espress.*

3/4 Andante, steady ♩ = 63

Flute 1 2

Oboe 1 2

E♭ Clarinet

B♭ Clarinet 1 2 3 4

B♭ Bass Clarinet

Bassoon 1 2

Contrabassoon

E♭ Alto Sax 1 2

B♭ Tenor Sax

E♭ Baritone Sax

F Horn 1 2 3 4

B♭ Trumpet 1 2 3 4

Trombone 1 2

Euphonium

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Contrabass

Harp

Timpani

A

Fl. 1 2 *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1 2 *p mp pp*

B♭ B. Cl. 3 4 *mp pp*

Bsn. 1 2 *p mp pp*

E♭ A. Sx. 1 2 *p p mp pp*

B♭ T. Sx. *p mp pp*

E♭ B. Sx. *mp pp*

Hp. *p*

Section A contains five measures of music. The flute part features a melodic line with a dynamic of *mf* and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The woodwinds and strings provide harmonic support with dynamics ranging from *p* to *pp*. The piano accompaniment is marked *p*.

B

Ob. 1 2 *Solo mf dramatico f*

E♭ B. Sx. *Solo p*

F Hn. 1 2 3 4 *p mf ppp p mf*

Tbn. 1 2 *p mf ppp p mf*

Bs. Tbn. Tuba *p mf ppp p mf*

Section B contains five measures of music. The oboe and bassoon have solo parts with dynamics *mf dramatico* and *f*. The brass section provides harmonic support with dynamics ranging from *p* to *mf*. The piano accompaniment is marked *p*.

4/4 [C]

20

Fl. 1 2 (Solo) *mp*

Ob. 1 *mf* *dramatico* *f* *pp* *mp*

Ob. 2 *mf* *dramatico* *f* *pp*

Bb B. Cl. *p*

Bsn. 1 2 Solo *mf cantabile* *p*

C. Bn. *p*

Eb B. Sx. *p*

F Hn. 1 2 *pp* *p*

F Hn. 3 4 *pp*

Tbn. 1 2 *pp*

Bs. Tbn. Tuba *pp*

C.B. *pizz.* *p*

Hp. *p*

4/4 [C] [D]

25

Fl. 1 2 *mp*

Ob. 1 2 *mp*

Bb Cl. 1 2 *mf espress.*

Bb Cl. 3 4 *mf espress.*

Bb B. Cl. *mf espress.*

Bsn. 1 2 *p*

C. Bn. *p*

F Hn. 1 2 *p*

C.B. *p*

Hp. *p*

all grace notes: brisk, with "bite" *p*

IV. D-O-N-E

2/4 Allegro con brio ♩ = 148

The score is arranged in systems for various instruments. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flute (1 and 2), Oboe (1 and 2), Eb Clarinet, Bb Clarinet (3 and 4), Bb Bass Clarinet, Bassoon (1 and 2), Contrabassoon, Eb Alto Sax (1 and 2), Bb Tenor Sax, and Eb Baritone Sax. The brass section includes F Horn (1, 2, 3, 4), Bb Trumpet (3 and 4), Trombone (1 and 2), Euphonium, Bass Trombone, and Tuba. The string section includes Contrabass. The percussion section includes Timpani, Xylophone, Percussion 2 (S.D., Bell Tree, Mark Tree, T.T.), Percussion 3 (Piatti, Cymbals), and Percussion 4 (B.D., T.T.).

Key performance markings include *sfz* (sforzando) for woodwinds, *fbrassy* (brassy forte) for brass, and *ff secco* (fortissimo secco) for timpani. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts and staves:

- Fl.** (Flute): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- Ob.** (Oboe): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- E♭ Cl.** (E-flat Clarinet): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- B♭ Cl.** (B-flat Clarinet): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- B♭ B. Cl.** (B-flat Bass Clarinet): 3 and 4 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- Bsn.** (Bassoon): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- C. Bn.** (Contrabassoon): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- E♭ A. Sx.** (E-flat Alto Saxophone): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- B♭ T. Sx.** (B-flat Tenor Saxophone): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- E♭ B. Sx.** (E-flat Baritone Saxophone): 1 and 2 staves, starting with a *f* dynamic.
- F Hn.** (French Horn): 1 and 2 staves (top), 3 and 4 staves (bottom), starting with *fbrassy* and *ffp* dynamics.
- B♭ Tpt.** (B-flat Trumpet): 1 and 2 staves (top), 3 and 4 staves (bottom), starting with *f* and *ffp* dynamics.
- Tbn.** (Trombone): 1 and 2 staves, starting with *f* and *ffp* dynamics.
- Euph.** (Euphonium): 1 and 2 staves, starting with *fbrassy* and *ffp* dynamics.
- Bs. Tbn. Tuba** (Bass Trombone/Tuba): 1 and 2 staves, starting with *f* and *ffp* dynamics.
- C.B.** (Cymbal): 1 and 2 staves, starting with *ff* dynamic.
- Timp.** (Timpani): 1 and 2 staves, starting with *f* and *ff* dynamics.
- Perc. 3** (Percussion 3): 1 and 2 staves, starting with *p* dynamic.

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (*f*, *ffp*, *ff*, *p*), articulation marks (*sfz*), and performance instructions like *fbrassy*. A large watermark "SAMPLE PAGE" is visible across the score.

A

Picc. *sfz*

Fl. 1 2 *sfz*

Ob. 1 2 *sfz*

E♭ Cl. *sfz*

B♭ Cl. 1 2 *sfz* a 2

3 4 *sfz*

B♭ B. Cl. *sfz*

Bsn. 1 2 *sfz*

C. Bn. *sfz*

E♭ A. Sx. 1 2 *sfz* a 2 *f*

B♭ T. Sx. *sfz* *f*

E♭ B. Sx. *sfz* *f*

F Hn. 1 2 *sfz*

3 4 *sfz*

B♭ Tpt. *Soli** a 2 *fenergico*

3 4 *sfz* a 2 *fenergico*

Tbn. 1 2 *sfz*

Euph. *sfz*

Bs. Tbn. *sfz*

Tuba *f*

C.B. *sfz*

Pf. *sfz*

A

Timp. *sfz*

Xyl. *f*

Perc. 3 *f*

Bass Drum

Perc. 4 *f*

*Rhythm of the word "DONE" in Morse code. This single word was sent across the US via telegraph in 1869, announcing the First Transcontinental Railroad's completion.