Alexander COMITAS

Concerto for String Bass and band

INTRODUCTION

With this contrabass concerto a wish dating from my student years has become reality. Henk Guldemond, at the time leader of the Concertgebouw Orchestra's contrabass section, invited me to dicuss with him the possibilities of the contrabass and of a concerto for this instrument. In the end, this didn't amount to anything, but the idea remained in the back of my head; together with the intention to start a future contrabass concerto with a piccolo solo.

More than 25 years after this conversation, the idea was realized after all. I suggested writing a concerto for contrabass and wind orchestra to contrabassist Peter Leerdam – at the time a fellow student of mine – and to conductor Sef Suilen and wind orchestra 'Sint Jan' from the Dutch town of Wierden. The idea was received so favourably, that a commission could be realized, owing to great efforts on the part of Sint Jan's and to benevolent grants from the Rabobank Noord-West Twente, the foundation for amateur music 'De Kunstfactor – Unisono' and the foundation 'De Noaber van Wierden'.

The composition is in one movement and largely monothematic. The music has been cast into a sonata form, with a short Adagio inserted between the exposition and the development and a cadenza for the solo instrument halfway the recapitulation. I made grateful use of a number of ideas and suggestions of Peter Leerdam.

Alexander Comitas, 21 March, 2007

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INSTRUMENTATION

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1x	Full Score	2x	1st & 3rd Horns F
1 x	Solo String Bass	2x	2nd & 4th Horns F
1x	Piccolo	1x	1 st C Trombone
2x	1 st Flute	1x	2 nd C Trombone
2x	2 nd Flute	1x	3 rd C Trombone
1x	1 st Oboe	1x	1 st B♭ Euphonium 🔗
1 x	2 nd Oboe // English Horn	1 x	1st B♭ Euphonium 9:
1 x	1st Bassoon	1 x	1 st C Euphonium
1x	2 nd Bassoon	1x	2 nd B ^J Euphonium 🗳
1x	E Clarinet	1x	2 nd B ^J Euphonium 9 :
5x	1 st B ^J Clarinet	1x	2 nd C Euphonium
5x	2 nd B ^b Clarinet	2x	B Bass 9:
5x	3 rd B , Clarinet	2x	E Bass 9:
1x	Alto Clarinet	1x	1 st C Bass
1 x	1 st Bass Clarinet	1 x	2 nd C Bass
1x	2 nd Bass Clarinet	1 x	String Bass
1x	Contrabass Clarinet	1x	Timpani
1x	1 st Alto Saxophone	1x	Percussion 1
1x	2 nd Alto Saxophone	1x	Percussion 2
2x	Tenor Saxophone	1x	Percussion 3
1x	Baritone Saxophone	1 x	Percussion 4
3x	1 st B ^J Trumpet	1 x	Percussion 5

- $3x \quad 2^{nd} B_{\flat}$ Trumpet
- 3x 3rd B^b Trumpet

for Peter Leerdam and "harmonieorkest 'Sint Jan'", Wierden (NL)

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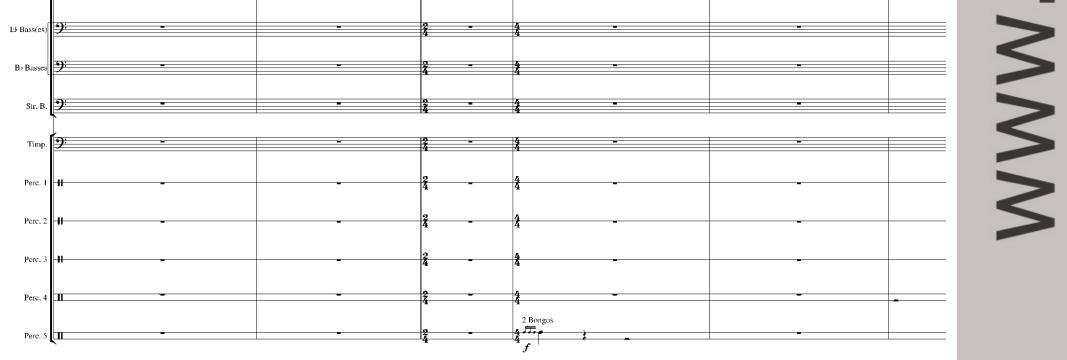
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Alexander COMITAS op. 54 (2007)

String Bass Solo (Solo tuning)	{ 7 4				n - 4	4 -		-	
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Piccolo (= Flute III)	94	f			4				
Flute I	<u>6</u> 4	-			2 - 4				
Flute II	61			-	<u>-</u>	4 -	-		
Oboc I	62				2 -	4	-		
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Ohoe II	6 4				4				
Bassoon I	9:4	-	-	-	2 - 4	4 -	-	-	
Bassoon II	9 74				n - 24	4 - 4	-		
E> Clarinet	64		-			4	-		
1st Clarinets	24	<u> </u>			2 -	4 -			
TST Clarinets	<u>6</u> 4				4	4			
2nd Clarinets	64				<u>9</u> - 4	4 - 4 -		<u> </u>	
3rd Clarinets	& 4		-	-	<u>-</u>	4 -	-		
Bass Clarinet I (or Alto Clariner)	64				2 - 4	4 -	-		
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,	•				4	4 <u> </u>			
Contrabass Clarinet	61	-			4 -	4 - 4			
Alto Saxophone I	61				2 - 4	4 -	-	-	
Alto Saxophone II	61	-			2 -	4			
	٥				2 -	4	-		
					2 -	4 -			
Baritone Saxophone					4	4			
E» Trumpet	<u>6</u> 1	-			2 - 2 4	4 <u> </u>			
Trumpet(s) / Comet(s) I	<u>6</u> 4		-	-	2 - 4	4 - 4		•	
Trumpet(s) / Cornet(s) II	61	-			2 -	4 -	-		
Trumpet(s) / Cornet(s) III					<u>n</u>	4			
	0				4 0	<u> </u>			
Horns I. III	<u>64</u>		-	-	4		-		
Horns II, IV	6 1	-			2	4 - 4			
Trombone(s) I	9 :4	-			9 - 7 - 4	4 - 4	-		
Trombone(s) II	9°4				<u>-</u>	4 -	-		
					2	4			
Trombone(s) III					<u> </u>	4	_		
Baritones / Euphoniums I	9:4	-	-	-	2 - 4	4 - 7			
itone(s) / Euphonium(s) II	•): 4				2 -	4			



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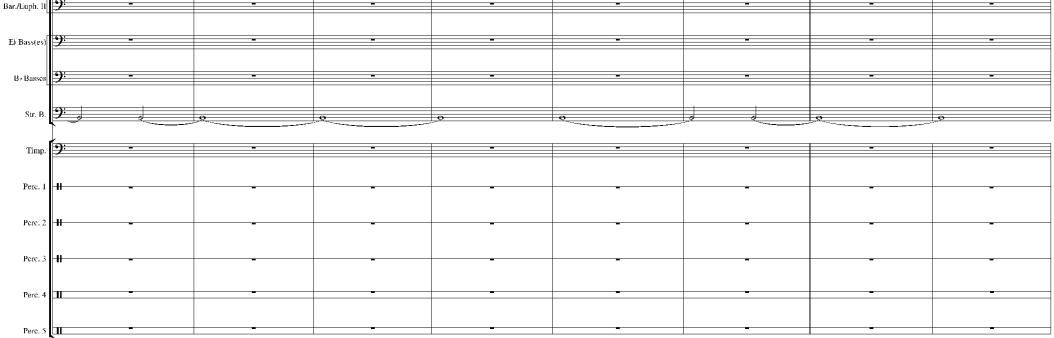


































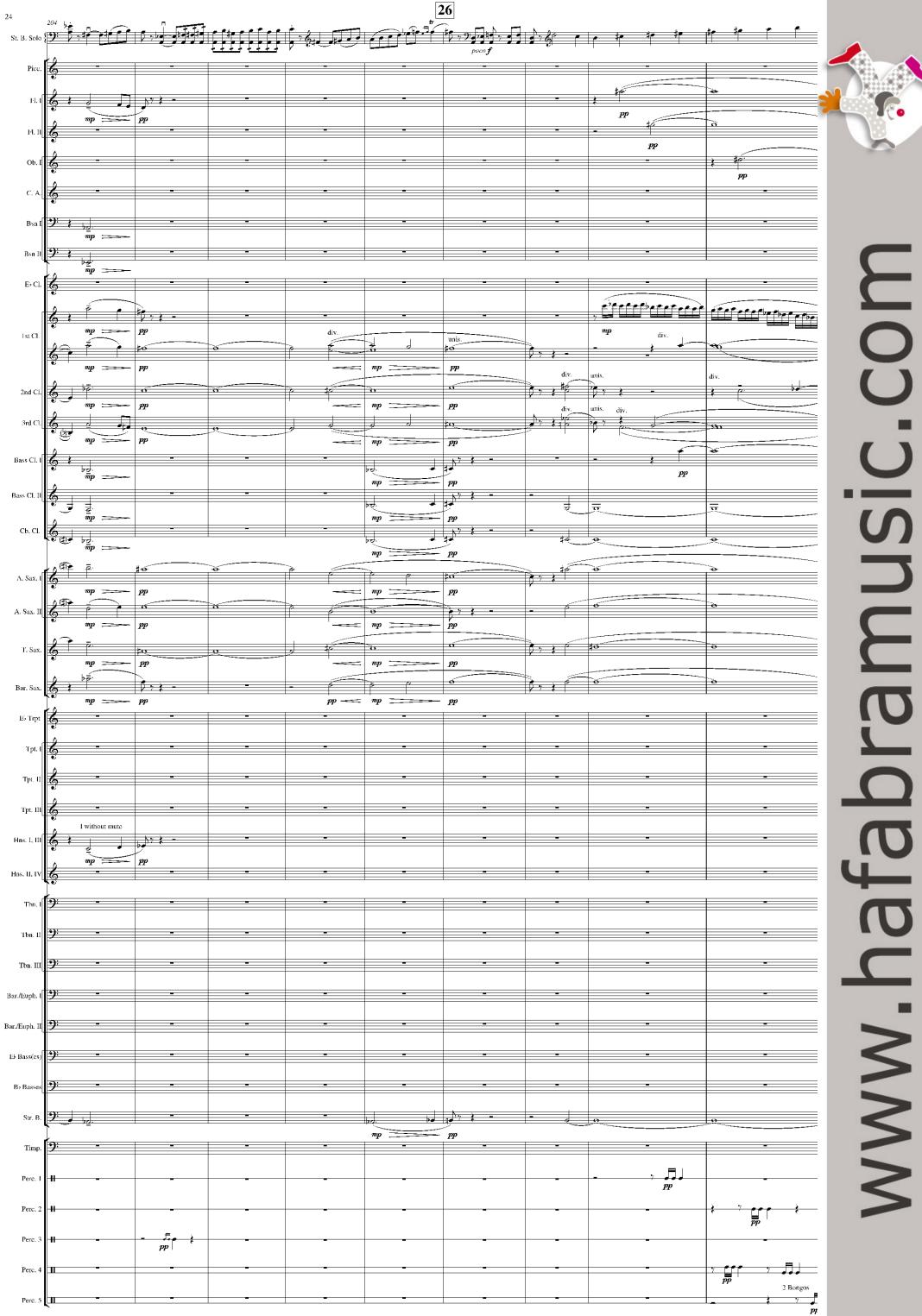
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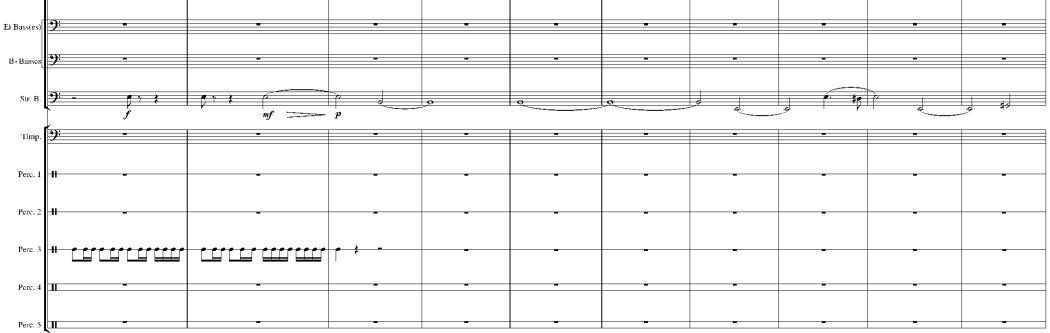












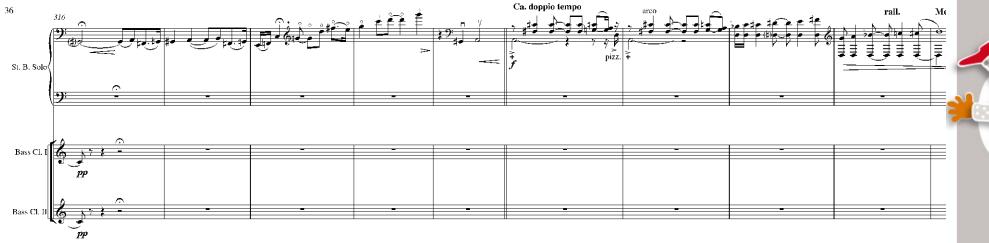


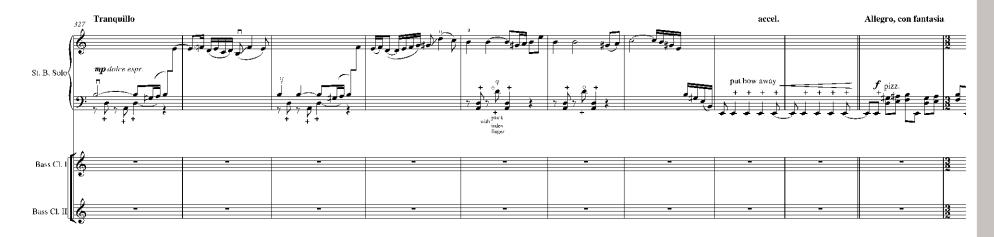
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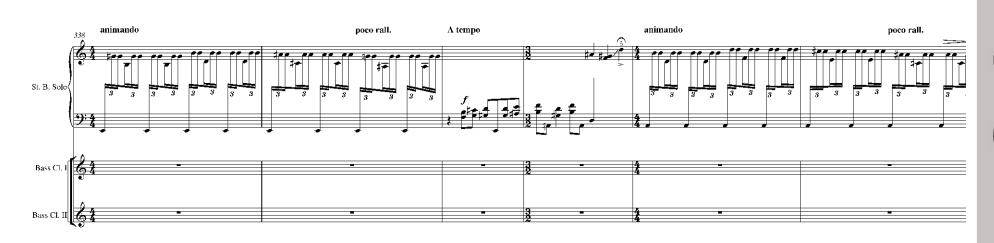




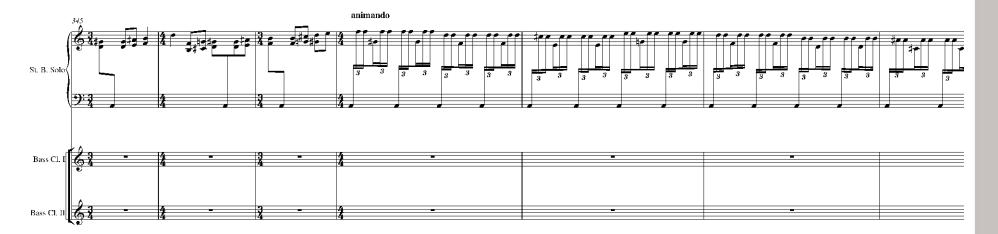


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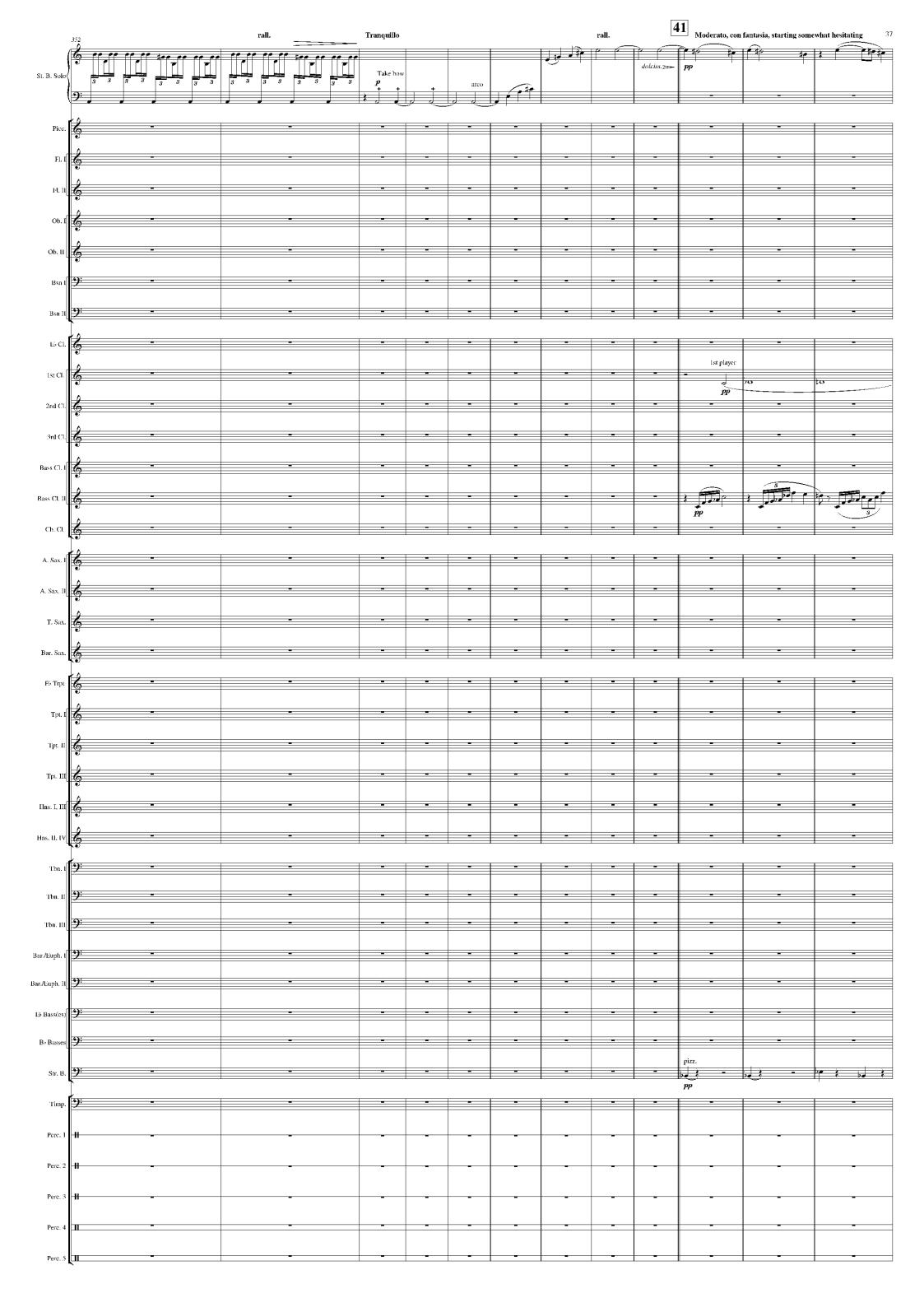
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