

STACY GARROP

Phoenix Rising

for solo Soprano Saxophone



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Sample



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PERFORMANCE NOTES

Accidentals remain in effect throughout the bar, only in the octave shown.

All grace notes are to be played before the beat.

All trills are to be trilled a half-step. For trills marked “timbral,” alternate between two fingerings (or quarter tones) for the same pitch.

Glissandi last the entire duration of the indicated note.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Legends of the phoenix are found in stories from ancient Egypt and Greece. While each culture possesses a range of stories encompassing the phoenix myth, these tales tend to share similar traits: a sacred bird with brilliantly colored plumage and melodious call lives for typically five hundred years; then the bird dies in a nest of embers, only to be reborn among the flames.

In Egyptian stories, the phoenix gathers scented wood and spices for its funeral/rebirth pyre, then collects the ashes from its earlier incarnation and flies them to the temple of the sun in Heliopolis to offer as a tribute to the sun god.

In Greek myths, the phoenix was approximately the size of an eagle and was adorned with red and gold feathers; it would fly from either India or Arabia to Heliopolis to give its offering. The bird’s association with immortality and resurrection are particularly intriguing aspects of these tales, giving numerous writers (including William Shakespeare, C.S. Lewis, and J.K. Rowling) a rich resource for their own stories.

PHOENIX RISING consists of two movements. *I. Dying in embers* represents an old phoenix who is settling on top of a pile of embers and breathing its last breath. *II. Reborn in flames* depicts the newly-born phoenix getting its first taste of flight.

PHOENIX RISING was commissioned by saxophonist Christopher Creviston, who has recorded the work on the Blue Griffin label. The composer has also made editions of the work for flute and for clarinet (also available from Theodore Presser Company).

— Stacy Garrop

Commissioned by Christopher Creviston
Phoenix Rising
 for solo Soprano Saxophone

Duration: c. 9'30"

STACY GARROP
 (2016)

I. Dying in embers

♩ = 60

Very freely; plaintive and mournful

An ancient phoenix, at the end of his life, settles down on a pile of embers

non vib. (a) timbral (b) Bird call (c)

5 sparse vib. timbral ord. sim.

9 normal vib. 3 3 3

13 timbral 3 3 3 slide

18 3 3 3

22 timbral 3 3 3

26 3 3 3

- (a) Alternate between two fingerings for the same pitch, or press another key to alter the pitch's sound. Vary the speed of the trill.
 (b) Bend pitch for entire indicated duration.
 (c) Impersonating the sound of flapping wings: make a pronounced "sh" air sound or double/triple tongue while also flapping keys. Add a slight accel into the gesture and a slight ritard out of it.

II. Reborn in flames

♩ = 120 Strict tempo

Energetic; *The embers explode into flames*Slightly bring out all notes
with tenuto indications.

The musical score is written in a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins in 4/4 time and features a variety of time signatures including 3/4, 2/4, 3/8, 5/8, 6/8, 2/2, 3/2, 5/4, and 6/4. The piece is characterized by rapid sixteenth-note passages, often grouped into sixteenth-note chords or sixteenth-note runs. Dynamic markings include *p*, *mp*, and *mf*. Performance instructions include 'Slightly bring out all notes with tenuto indications' and '(a) Slightly separate notes with consecutive tenuto markings, throughout the movement.' Specific markings include 'timbral' with a wavy line above a note at measure 28, and 'accel.' at measure 28. The tempo changes from 120 to 126 at measure 28. The score is divided into measures 1-4, 8-11, 14-17, 21-25, 28-32, and 32-35.

(a) Slightly separate notes with consecutive tenuto markings, throughout the movement.