

ALFRED'S CHALLENGER BAND SERIES

Hercules vs. the Hydra

By Scott Watson

The Greek hero, Hercules, was sentenced by the Gods to endure 12 seemingly impossible “labors” in order to redeem himself. *Hercules vs. the Hydra* portrays the second of these tests: his battle with a nine-headed water serpent with deadly venom and the ability to grow back two heads for every one cut off!

The piece begins with the Hydra’s half-step motive, which quickly builds and multiplies into the music of the epic fight. The blows of Hercules’ club and sword, rhythmic accents in the music, land hard on the beast, but to no avail. Hercules regroups to a slow, hopeful theme, encouraged as his nephew Iolaus shares the secret to defeating the Hydra. Hercules rejoins the contest with new resolve, reflected in the exciting merging of two of the piece’s themes, which lead to a victorious climax!

INSTRUMENTATION

1 – Conductor Score	2 – F Horn
10 – Flute	3 – Trombone
2 – Oboe	2 – Baritone B.C.
2 – Bassoon	2 – Baritone T.C.
6 – 1st B \flat Clarinet	2 – Tuba
6 – 2nd B \flat Clarinet	Percussion – 6 players:
2 – B \flat Bass Clarinet	1 – Marimba
2 – 1st E \flat Alto Saxophone	2 – Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
2 – 2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone	4 – Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal/Triangle, Woodblock/Tambourine/ Crash Cymbals)
2 – B \flat Tenor Saxophone	1 – Timpani
1 – E \flat Baritone Saxophone	
4 – 1st B \flat Trumpet	
4 – 2nd B \flat Trumpet	

WORLD PARTS

available for download from
www.alfred.com/worldparts

E \flat Alto Clarinet
E \flat Horn
Trombone in B \flat T.C.
Trombone in B \flat B.C.
Euphonium in B \flat B.C.
Tuba in B \flat T.C.
Tuba in B \flat B.C.
Tuba in E \flat T.C.
Tuba in E \flat B.C.
String Bass



Fl./Ob. *a2* *mf*

Cls. 1/2 *mf*

A. Saxes 1/2 *mf*

Tpts. 1/2 *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Trb. *mf*

Bar./Tuba *mf*

Mar. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Tamb. *mf*

31 *mf* 32 33 34

35 *To Coda*

Fl./Ob. *f* *a2* *sfz*

Cls. 1/2 *f* *sfz*

A. Saxes 1/2 *f* *sfz*

Tpts. 1/2 *f* *a2* *sfz*

Hn. *f* *sfz*

Trb. *f* *sfz*

Bar./Tuba *f* *sfz*

Mar. *f* *sfz*

Perc. 1 *f* (yam mallets)

Perc. 2 *f* *mf* *f* *sfz* W.B.

Timp. *f* *fp* *f* *sfz*

35 36 37 38 39

Fl./Ob. *fp*

Cls. 1/2

A. Saxes 1/2 *mp* A. Sx. 1 *fp*

Tpts. 1/2

Hn. *fp* *mp* *fp*

Trb.

Bar./Tuba

Mar.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp* Sus. Cym. (yam mallets) *mp* *mf*

Timp. *p*

40 41 42 43 44 45

46 Solenne, ma con moto $\text{♩} = 138$

Fl./Ob.

Cls. 1/2 *p*

A. Saxes 1/2 *a2* *p*

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Trb.

Bar./Tuba

Mar. *pp*

Perc. 1 *pp*

Perc. 2

Timp. *pp*

46 47 48 49 50 51

Fl./Ob. *mp* *a2* *p*

Cls. 1/2 *mp* *p*

A. Saxes 1/2 *mp* *p*

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Trb. *p* (Bsn., T. Sax. only)

Bar./Tuba

Mar.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

52 53 54 55 56 57

poco rit. **A tempo, broad, risoluto** **62** ♩ = 138

Fl./Ob. *f*

Cls. 1/2 *f*

A. Saxes 1/2 *f* *a2*

Tpts. 1/2 *mf* *f* *a2*

Hn. *mf* *f*

Trb. (+ Tbn.) *mp* *f*

Bar./Tuba *mf* *f*

Mar.

Perc. 1 *fp* *f*

Perc. 2

Timp. *mp* *f* Cr. Cyms. (no roll)

39610S 58 59 60 61 62

Fl./Ob. *a2*

Cls. 1/2

A. Saxes 1/2

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Trb.

Bar./Tuba

Mar.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp. *mf*

63 64 65 66 67

Fl./Ob. *a2*

Cls. 1/2 *a2*

A. Saxes 1/2

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Trb.

Bar./Tuba

Mar.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp*

Timp. *f*

70 71 72

rit.

Fl. div. (Ob. w/Fl. 2)

Fl./Ob.

Cls. 1/2

A. Saxes 1/2

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Trb.

Bar./Tuba

Mar.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

73 74 75 76 77

Poco meno mosso = 126

- Ob., Fl. unis.

rit.

Solo, freely

rit. D.C. al Coda

Fl./Ob.

Cls. 1/2

A. Saxes 1/2

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Trb.

Bar./Tuba

Mar.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

78 79 80 81 82 83

Coda

Fl./Ob. *ff* *a2*

Cls. 1/2 *ff* *a2*

A. Saxes 1/2 *ff* *a2*

Tpts. 1/2 *ff* *a2*

Hn. *ff*

Trb. (+ T. Sx.) *ff*

Bar./Tuba (+ Bsn.) *ff*

Mar. *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff*

Perc. 2 *ff* (yam mallets)

Timp. *ff*

84 85 86 87

Fl./Ob. *ff* *a2*

Cls. 1/2 *ff* *a2*

A. Saxes 1/2 *ff* *a2*

Tpts. 1/2 *ff* *a2*

Hn. *ff*

Trb. *ff*

Bar./Tuba *ff*

Mar. *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff*

Perc. 2 *ff*

Timp. *ff*

88 89 90 91



92

Fl./Ob. *ff* Fl. div.

Cls. 1/2 *ff*

A. Saxes 1/2 *ff*

Tpts. 1/2 *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Hn. *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Trb. *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Bar./Tuba *cresc.* *ff*

Mar. *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff*

Perc. 2 *mf* *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Timp. *fp* 92 *cresc.* 93 94 95 *ff* *sffz* 96

Fl./Ob. *ff* Fl. unis.

Cls. 1/2 *ff*

A. Saxes 1/2 *ff*

Tpts. 1/2 *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Hn. *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Trb. *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Bar./Tuba *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Mar. *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Perc. 2 *ff* *sffz* *sffz*

Timp. *ff* *sffz* *sffz* *mf* *ff*

39610S *ffz* 97 *ffz* 98 99 100 101