

W. Jay Sydeman

Trio

for Violin, Guitar and Piano

(c. 1962)

W. Jay Sydeman's life mirrors the breadth and variety of his music. Born in New York in 1928 and educated at Manhattan's Mannes School of Music, he quickly became one of the most sought-after and honored composers of his generation, receiving commissions from such prestigious groups as the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the Tanglewood Music Center, and the Boston Symphony, which premiered his orchestral work in memory of John F. Kennedy in 1966. "Sydeman uses a whole battery of far out techniques," wrote the *New York Times*, "but he has an uncanny ability to throw in the whole avant-garde machinery as if it were the simplest, most normal way of making music in the world ... More than many of his colleagues, he seems to know what will sound well, and he works for some remarkably attractive, pure textures. His sounds seem to grow from a physical sense of exactly what material is right."

In 1970, after a heady period that included awards from the National Institute of Arts and Letters, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Library of Congress, Sydeman left New York – and composition – to begin a journey of personal and artistic exploration.

"Around 1980," he has written, "I returned to composition – at first a large number of choral works which reconnected me to the source of all music – the human voice. Out of this new lyric impulse have evolved all of my works since that time – more romantic, more accessible. I create music for the musician."

– Howard Hersh,
Artistic Director of "Music Now"

Sydeman is a member of Nevada County Composers Cooperative, a composers' group in Nevada City annually producing the "Wet Ink Festival of New Music." He now lives in Mendocino.

Duration: circa 1:30

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Andante ♩ = c. 96

Violin *mp espr.*

Guitar *mp sempre legato*

Piano *mp*

4

The musical score is written for Violin, Guitar, and Piano. It is in 4/4 time and marked Andante with a tempo of approximately 96 beats per minute. The Violin part begins with a half note G4, followed by a slur over a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note C5. The Guitar part begins with a half note G3, followed by a slur over a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, and a half note C4. The Piano part begins with a half note G2, followed by a slur over a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, and a half note C3. The score continues with various musical notations including slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

8 A

12

16

allarg.-----

19

Measures 19-22 of the musical score. The first staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with dotted rhythms and slurs, marked *p sub.*. The second staff (treble clef) features a more active melodic line with slurs, also marked *p sub.*. The third system consists of a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with block chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, marked *a tempo* and *p sub.*.

23

Measures 23-26 of the musical score. The first staff (treble clef) continues the melodic line with slurs and a flat accidental, marked *p sub.*. The second staff (treble clef) continues the active melodic line with slurs and various accidentals, marked *p sub.*. The third system (grand staff) continues the harmonic accompaniment with block chords and a bass line, marked *a tempo* and *p sub.*. A *rit.* marking with a dashed line appears above the right hand of the grand staff at the end of measure 26.

27

Measures 27-30 of the musical score. The first staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with slurs, marked *p sub.*. The second staff (treble clef) features a more active melodic line with slurs, marked *p sub.*. The third system (grand staff) continues the harmonic accompaniment with block chords and a bass line, marked *a tempo* and *p sub.*. A *rit.* marking with a dashed line appears above the right hand of the grand staff at the end of measure 30.