

Bio

Jason Taurins (b. 1991) holds a Bachelor of Music in Education degree from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI. His composition teachers have included Dr. Lisa R. Coons and Dr. Richard Adams. He studied trumpet with Dr. Stephen Jones and Scott Thornburg.

Jason is represented by ASCAP, and is self-published through Klangfarbenmelodien Music. His compositional interests include writing music for wind bands (especially for young players) and brass chamber music, including brass quintet and solo trumpet music. His compositions have been performed throughout the United States.

You can learn more at www.jasontaurins.com.

Program Notes

Triton is a Greek god of the sea, the son of Poseidon and Amphitrite. He is said to have wielded a conch-shell trumpet which had the power to raise and lower the waves on the oceans. It was said to produce a loud and raucous sound that sounded like a ferocious beast. The sound was so terrifying that the giants would run for fear of being devoured by a monster.

This piece, which bears his name, musically depicts his trumpet and the power it holds over the sea. This piece is written in six sections related by a tone row, but that are like a short symphony of six movements played one after another. This means the form is ABCDEF.

- I. Trumpet Bell Theme
- II. Big Waves on the Sea
- III. Calm Seas
- IV. Chaos and Cacophony
- V. Tempest!
- VI. Triton's Final Bellow

In general terms, the vertical space between pitches represents vertical space. For example in the "Trumpet Bell Theme" section, the pitches gradually expand outward from concert F, creating the shape of a trumpet bell. In the next two sections and in the "Tempest!," the vertical interval between the pitches represents the height of the waves on the sea. Dynamics imply swelling and decaying of waves as well. The shape as it appears on the page is also wave-like. "Chaos and Cacophony," as its name implies, is chaotic and pointillistic, representing the chaotic nature of the sea. The interval of a tritone is structural to the work, and represents the god shouting his name. In measures 6 and 7, Triton emphatically states his name and declares his power. The final section is based on the prime version of the row transposed up by a tritone.