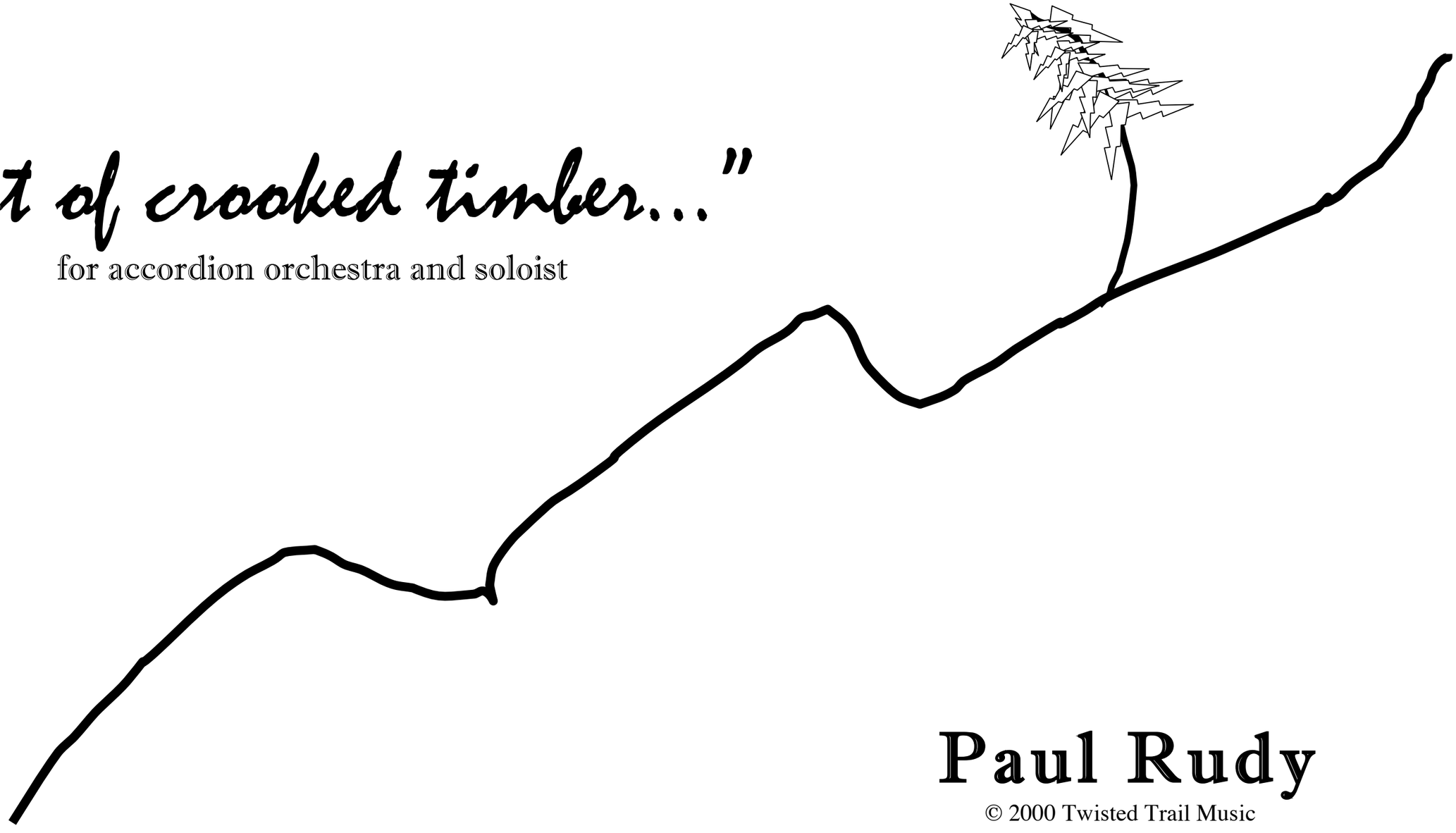
"Out of crooked timber..."

for accordion orchestra and soloist



Paul Rudy

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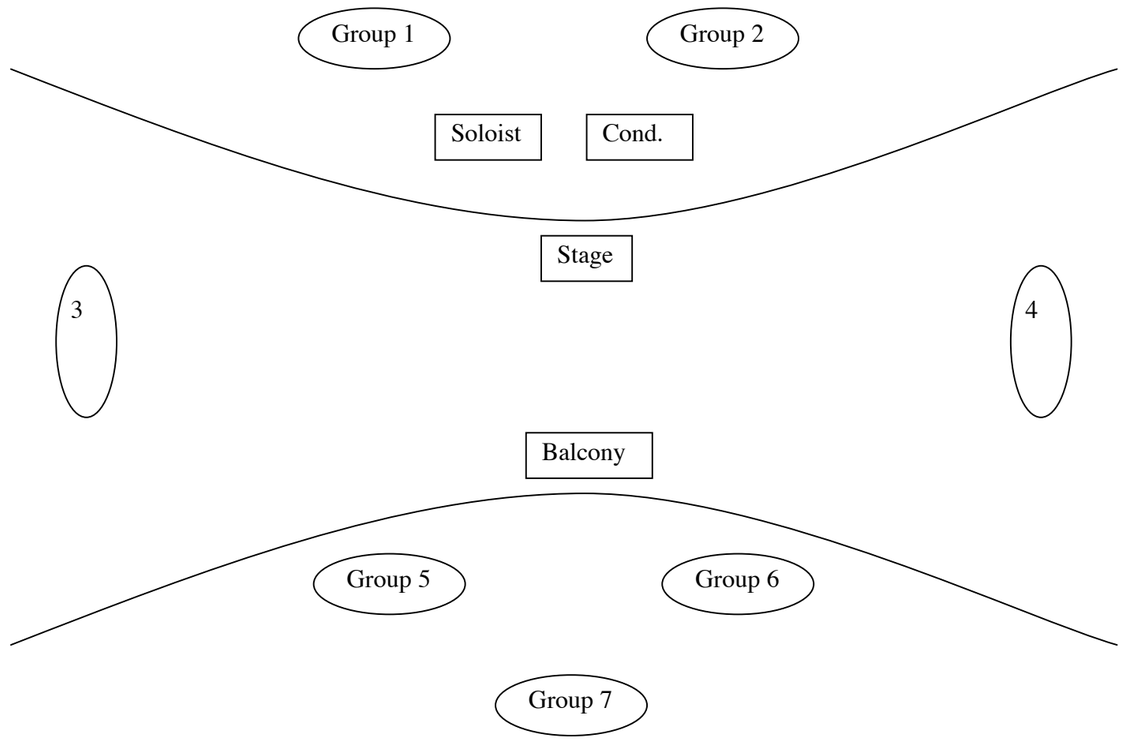
"**Out of crooked timber....**"
for accordion orchestra with soloist (2000) Duration: 9'
~Commissioned by Joan Sommers for the UMKC Accordion Orchestra~

Program Notes

I was immediately struck by the phrase from Immanual Kant's *idee zu einer allgemeinen Geschichte in weltbürgerlicher Absicht* (1784): "Out of the crooked timber of humanity no straight thing can ever be made." My hope was (and is) that humanity pass from its adolescence marked with violence, trauma, and moody tantrums into a more stable adulthood of diplomacy, compassion, and kindness. Sound mass becomes a metaphor for the unhewn timber out of which I try to mill something straight. In the end, straightness becomes a matter of relativity balanced between the pessimism of Kant's view and my hopeless romantic optimism.

Performance Notes

"Out of crooked timber…" is intended to be performed my an accordion soloist with seven groups of at least three players each. The seven groups should be distributed throughout the performance space surrounding the audience to maximize the sound mass quality. If 21 group players are not available, all performers should be placed on stage in traditional orchestral setup.



** Where immediate register changes are not possible on certain instruments, ad-lib changes, but do not coordinate within or between groups.

"Out of crooked timber..."

~for Joan Sommers and the UMKC Accordion Orchestra~

Paul Rudy
(b. 1962)

Cataclysmic, Massive! ♩ = 60

All figures should be played as fast as possible!
They are, however, not meant to be played literally.
Freedom should be taken with rhythm.

Solo Accordian

Group 1

Group 2

Group 3

Group 4

Group 5

Group 6

Group 7

Q1 8va

Q2 Stagger entrances, do not coordinate! Play continuously, without relenting!

Q3 Stagger entrances, do not coordinate! Play continuously, without relenting!

Q4 Stagger entrances, do not coordinate! Play continuously, without relenting!

Q5 Stagger entrances, do not coordinate! Play continuously, without relenting!

Q6 Bellows shake Stagger entrances, do not coordinate! Play continuously, without relenting!

Q7 Bellows shake Play continuously, without relenting! Stagger entrances, do not coordinate!

ffff

:05 :10 :15 :20 :25 :30

Duration: 9'

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Rubato, Passionately

8va

4"

as fast as possible...

5"

10"

delicate
any note order

Solo

ffff

Bellows shake

gradually release notes

Bellows shake

pp

mp *f* *mp*

:60

Harsh!

8va

fast!

Solo

Bellows shake

ffff

gradually release notes

do not coordinate

ppp

Grp 1

Grp 2

do not coordinate

ppp

1:30

4

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

1:45

2:00

Q1 Q2 Q3

In tempo ♩ = 60

last X

5

Grp 1 Grp 2 Grp 3 Grp 4 Grp 5 Grp 6 Grp 7

Bellows shake

l.h.

2:07 2:15 2:22 2:30

a tempo ♩= 60

4" 3" 2" 2" 3"

Grp 1
Grp 2
Grp 3
Grp 4
Grp 5
Grp 6
Grp 7

r.h.

2:45 3:00

evaporating . . . . .

15"

8va

7

mp

mf

Q1 do not coordinate

pp

Q4 do not coordinate

pp

Q5 do not coordinate

pp

Q2 do not coordinate

pp

Q3 do not coordinate

pp

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

3:15

3:30

Q1

freely...

mf

fff

o

fff

Q2

Gliss.

fff

Q4

as fast as possible...

fff

Grp 1

Grp 2

gliss.

fff

Q3

as fast as possible...

fff

Grp 3

gliss.

fff

Grp 4

gliss.

fff

as fast as possible...

Grp 5

gliss.

fff

do not coordinate

Grp 6

gliss.

fff

any pattern on given notes
as fast as possible...

pp

do not coordinate

Grp 7

gliss.

fff

any pattern on given notes
as fast as possible...

pp

3:45

4:00

In tempo ♩= 60

9

o

mf

fff

gl.

gliss.

Grp 1

Q1

In tempo ♩= 60

l.h. r.h.

fff *play chords in any inversion

Q3

f

fff

gliss.

gliss.

sffz

o

Grp 2

ppp

Grp 3

Grp 4

Q2

as fast as possible...

fff

In tempo ♩= 60

Q4

fff

fff

fff

ppp

ppp

ppp

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

4:15

4:30

*Note: the total duratioin of this page 15" (not 30")

10

gliss.

mf

Grp 1

Grp 2

gliss.

sfffz

Grp 3

as fast as possible...
do not coordinate

ff

Grp 4

as fast as possible...
do not coordinate

ff

Grp 5

fff

pp

Grp 6

fff

pp

Grp 7

fff

pp

In tempo ♩ = 120

Driving!

11

**Accidentals carry through the bars during metered sections

**Coordinate rhythms, but not pitches. Follow the general contour.

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

19

play clusters
gliss tremolo

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

random clusters

random clusters

random clusters

random clusters

ff

p

cresc. poco a poco....

o

8va

cresc. poco a poco....

No Tempo

harsh bellows shakes

27

improvise rhythm mixing 3's and 4's

fff

o

as fast as possible...

Grp 1

fff as fast as possible...

f

Grp 2

fff

f

play clusters

gliss slowly

gliss with trmolo

Grp 3

fff

f

play clusters

gliss slowly

gliss with trmolo

Grp 4

fff

f

Grp 5

*Ad lib switch changes gradually. Do NOT coordinate!

improvise patterns: any order, any rhythm

fff

f

Grp 6

*Ad lib switch changes gradually. Do NOT coordinate!

improvise patterns: any order, any rhythm

fff

f

Grp 7

*Ad lib switch changes gradually. Do NOT coordinate!

improvise patterns: any order, any rhythm

fff

f

5:30

5:45

31

as fast as possible...

as fast as possible...

play patterns in any order fast!

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

Bellows shake

Bellows shake

l.h.

l.h.

l.h.

r.h. as fast as possible...

6:00

6:15

Conductor

Que in Tempo ♩ = 72

35

alternate between patterns

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

6:30

6:45

In tempo ♩ = 72

39

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

(7)

(9)

(8)

**Accidentals carry through the bar only in the octave they appear, from here to the end.

7:00

49

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

(5)

(6)

(7)

(9)

(6)

(8)

(9)

58

fff

p

cresc. poco a poco....

mf

Grp 1

ppp

Grp 2

ppp

Grp 3

ppp

mf

Grp 4

ppp

Grp 5

ppp

mp

Grp 6

ppp

Grp 7

ppp

Driving, relentless...

66

f

cresc. poco a poco....

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

mf

f

cresc. poco a poco....

cresc. poco a poco....

74

ff *cresc. poco a poco....*

Grp 1

Grp 2

ff

Grp 3

ff

Grp 4

ff

Grp 5

ff

Grp 6

ff

Grp 7

ff

82

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

fff

ff

90

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

fff

(optional) 8vb

98

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

fff

fff

mp

ff

mp

ff

*may be played in left hand

106

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

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Thunderous!

Rit...

114

Grp 1

Grp 2

Grp 3

Grp 4

Grp 5

Grp 6

Grp 7

Kansas City: May 17, 2000
rev. Nov, 2007