

By Virtue of the Skies

The Barnstormer's Flight

John Prescott

1 Full Score	3 Bb Trumpet 1
1 Piccolo	3 Bb Trumpet 2
4 Flute 1	3 Bb Trumpet 3
4 Flute 2	2 F Horn 1
2 Oboe	2 F Horn 2
2 Bassoon	3 Trombone 1
3 Bb Clarinet 1	3 Trombone 2
3 Bb Clarinet 2	1 Bass Trombone
3 Bb Clarinet 3	3 Baritone B.C.
2 Bass Clarinet	2 Baritone T.C.
2 Alto Saxophone 1	5 Tuba
2 Alto Saxophone 2	1 Timpani
2 Tenor Saxophone	3 Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Vibra-slap
1 Baritone Saxophone	2 Percussion 2: Suspended Cymbal, Triangle
	1 Percussion 3: Vibraphone
	1 Percussion 4: Bells (or Crotales)
	2 Percussion 5: Chimes, Agogo Bells

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Program Notes

My father, Jack Prescott, was born in 1922 and at the age of 17 he became the youngest pilot in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. As he later told me, he was something of a daredevil back then – flying under drawbridges, and doing snap rolls down the deserted beach at 50 feet. During World War II, he was a member of the Army Air Corps and flew C-47 transport planes from India to China over the Himalaya Mountains. He flew 83 missions over “the hump” and was later awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by President Harry Truman.

In the composition, *By Virtue of the Skies*, this heroism in the face of severe adversity is depicted by the dignified thematic material of the opening, which is tested by the somewhat dissonant fanfare figures at 65 and 108. The ultimate triumph of the hero becomes apparent at the end of the work.

This work also honors the career of my friend and teacher, James Barnes, who has always been something of a barnstormer in his own fashion.

About the Composer

John Prescott is a Professor of Music at Missouri State University, where he teaches theory, composition, and commercial music. His compositions include works for band, orchestra, chorus, solo, and chamber ensembles, as well as multi-media pieces, and have been performed nationally and internationally. Dr. Prescott holds degrees in music theory and composition from Florida State University and from the University of Kansas, where he studied composition with John Pozdro and James Barnes.

For James Barnes, my teacher and friend.
By Virtue of the Skies
The Barnstormer's Flight

John Prescott (ASCAP)
Opus 78

With Great Dignity ♩ = ca. 76

Piccolo

Flute 1 2 *a2*

Oboe *mf*

Bassoon

Bb Clarinet 1 *Tpt. 1 cue* *mf*

Bb Clarinet 2 3

Bass Clarinet

Alto Saxophone 1 2 *Hn. 1 cue* *mf*

Tenor Saxophone *Bar. cue* *mf*

Baritone Saxophone

Bb Trumpet 1 *One player* *mf*

Bb Trumpet 2 3

F Horn 1 2 *Hn. 1 only* *mf*

Trombone 1 2

Bass Trombone

Baritone *mf*

Tuba *mf*

With Great Dignity ♩ = ca. 76

Timpani F, Bb, Eb, G

Percussion 1 Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Vibra-slap

Percussion 2 Suspended Cymbal, Triangle

Percussion 3 Vibraphone

Percussion 4 Bells (or Crotales)

Percussion 5 Chimes, Agogo Bells

2 3 4 5 6 7

10

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1
2
3

Hn. 1
2

(+ Hn. 2)

mf

Tbn. 1
2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

10

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

rall. 18 **With Great Energy** ♩ = ca. 136

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1
 2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 3
 Hn. 1
 2
 Tbn. 1
 2
 B. Tbn.
 Bar.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4
 Perc. 5

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

div.
rall. 18 **With Great Energy** ♩ = ca. 136
 Triangle
 Sus. Cym.
 (on dome with Tri. beater)
f
mf
f

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
Cl. 2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
3

Hn. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Vibra-slap

Agogo Bells

mf

mf

f

f

22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

4

30

Picc. *fp* *f*

Fl. 1 *fp* *f*

Ob. *fp* *f*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *Play* *fp* *f*

Cl. 2/3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1 *A. Sx. 1 only* *fp* *f*

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2/3

Hn. 1 *Hn. 1 only* *fp* *f*

Tbn. 1

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

30

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4 (l.v. throughout) *ff*

Perc. 5

30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc. *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

Fl. 1 *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

Fl. 2 *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

Ob. *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

Cl. 2 *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1 *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 *fp* *ff* *fp* *ff*

Hn. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4 *f* *f*

Perc. 5

38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

46

Picc. Fl. 1 2 Ob. Bsn. Cl. 1 2 3 B. Cl. A. Sx. 1 2 T. Sx. B. Sx. Tpt. 1 2 3 Hn. 1 2 Tbn. 1 2 B. Tbn. Bar. Tba. Timp. Perc. 1 2 3 4 5

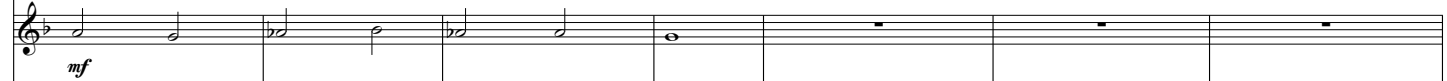
Solo
 B $\flat$ to C
 Tom-tom
 to Chimes

f
mf
mp

46 47 48 49 50 51

Picc. 

Fl. 1 2 
mf *f*

Ob. 
mf

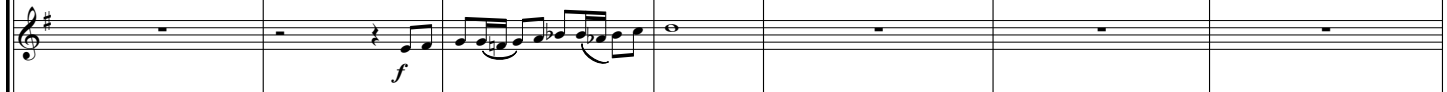
Bsn. 

Cl. 1 
f

Cl. 2 3 
f Cl. 2 only

B. Cl. 

A. Sx. 1 2 
f A. Sx. 1 only

T. Sx. 
f

B. Sx. 

Tpt. 1 

Tpt. 2 3 

Hn. 1 2 

Tbn. 1 2 

B. Tbn. 

Bar. 
f

Tba. 

56

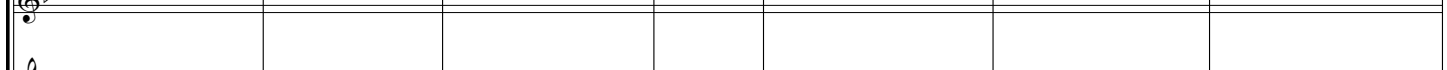
Timp. 

Perc. 1 
Bass Drum *p* *f*

Perc. 2 
mf Sus. Cym. (reg./yarn mallets) *p* *f*

Perc. 3 

Perc. 4 

Perc. 5 

65 *tr*

Picc. *f*

Fl. 1 2

Ob. *f*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 3 + Cl. 3 (a2)

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1 2

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. 8vb if possible *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 3 *f*

Hn. 1 2

Tbn. 1 2 *f*

B. Tbn. *f*

Bar. Solo tutti *f*

Tba.

Timp. 65

Perc. 1 Snare Drum *mp* *f*

Perc. 2 *mp* *f*

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

59 60 61 62 63 64 65

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1
 2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 3
 Hn. 1
 2
 Tbn. 1
 2
 B. Tbn.
 Bar.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4
 Perc. 5

66 67 68 69 70 71

Picc. *mf* *pp*

Fl. 1 2 *f*

Ob. *mf* *pp*

Bsn. *mf*

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2 3 8vb if possible

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sx. 1 2 Hn. 1 cue *f*

T. Sx. 1 player only *f*

B. Sx. *mf*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 3

Hn. 1 2 *f*

Tbn. 1 2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

Perc. 4 *mf*

Perc. 5 Chimes *mf*

72 *mf* 73 74 75 76 77 78

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1
2
3

Hn. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86

87 88 89 90 91 92 93

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1
2
3

Hn. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

92

92

Tom-tom

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

mf

p

f

f

f

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1
2
3

Hn. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

94 95 96 97 98 99

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1
2
3

Hn. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

100 101 102 103 104 105

108

108

113

Picc. *fp*

Fl. 1 *fp*

Fl. 2 *fp*

Ob. *fp*

Bsn. *fp*

Cl. 1 *fp*

Cl. 2 *fp*

Cl. 3 *fp*

B. Cl. *fp*

A. Sx. 1 *fp*

A. Sx. 2 *fp*

T. Sx. *tutti* *fp*

B. Sx. *fp*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tpt. 3 *f*

Hn. 1 *mf*

Hn. 2 *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf*

Bar. *f*

Tba. *mf*

113

Timp. *fp* Tom-tom

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *p* *f*

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

112 113 114 115 116 117 118

120

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1
 2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 3
 Hn. 1
 2
 Tbn. 1
 2
 B. Tbn.
 Bar.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4
 Perc. 5

119 120 121 122 123 124 125

18

Musical score for "By Virtue of the Skies" starting at measure 120. The score includes parts for Piccolo, Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets 1, 2, and 3, Bass Clarinet, Saxophones (Alto, Tenor, Baritone), Trumpets 1, 2, and 3, Horns 1 and 2, Trombones 1 and 2, Baritone, Tuba, Timpani, and five Percussion parts. The score features various musical notations including dynamics (mf, f), articulation (accents, staccato), and performance instructions like "a2" and "sim.". The bottom of the page shows measure numbers 119 through 125 and the page number 18.

126

Picc. *mf*

Fl. 1 2 *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2 3 *mf* a2

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sx. 1 2 *mf* A. Sx. 1 only

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. *mf*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 3 *f* Tpt. 3 div.

Hn. 1 2 *f* Hn. 1 only

Tbn. 1 2 *f*

B. Tbn. *f*

Bar. *f*

Tba. *f*

126

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 S.D. *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

Perc. 4 *mf*

Perc. 5 *mf*

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1
 2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 3
 Hn. 1
 2
 Tbn. 1
 2
 B. Tbn.
 Bar.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4
 Perc. 5

132 133 134 135 136 137 138 *f* 139

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2 only
 Cl. 2
 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1
 2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 3
 Hn. 1
 2
 Tbn. 1
 2
 B. Tbn.
 Bar.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4
 Perc. 5

140 141 142 143 144 145 146

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1
 2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 3
 Hn. 1
 2
 Tbn. 1
 2
 B. Tbn.
 Bar.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4
 Perc. 5

Tpt. 3 div. —
 div.
 C to Bb

147

148

149

150

151

152

rall.

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1
 2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 3
 Hn. 1
 2
 Tbn. 1
 2
 B. Tbn.
 Bar.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4
 Perc. 5

div.
 a2
 B $\flat$ to C
rall.

153

154

155

156

157

158

24

By Virtue of the Skies

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1
2
3

Hn. 1
2

Tbn. 1
2

B. Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

166 167 168 *ff* 169 170 171 172

bells up a2

ff

B $\flat$ to C