

## More About **EXPANSIONS FOR ORCHESTRA**

In preparation for the release of its recording by the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra of Ostrava, CZ in late 2021 or early 2022, I wrote the following program notes:

**Expansions for Orchestra** is modeled on a concert band composition that was commissioned from me in 1975, which I titled **Expansions for Winds and Percussion**. The title of both pieces refers to the way the music takes a few short motifs and, without using any of the common musical forms, develops or "expands" them into a complete composition.

Written in an atonal contemporary idiom, the music uses tone clusters, dissonant counterpoint, and various aleatoric devices to build and release tension. Rhythm, color, and texture are stressed above melody and harmony.

The composition is in 3 sections, each building on the previous one:

1. *Rather slowly*
2. *Faster, tense*
3. *Fast, frantic*

**Expansions for Orchestra** is scored for 2 flutes/piccolo, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets/bass clarinet, 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 2 trumpets, 2 trombones, tuba, bells/xylophone, timpani, 2 percussion, and strings.