

# Alto Saxophone 2

*Commissioned for SaxOpen - XVII World Saxophone Congress & Festival - Strasbourg 2015*

# What If

for 101 saxophones\*

(an ensemble of 100 saxophones + 1 alto saxophone soloist)

(2014)

(duration: c. 12)

# Mark Phillips

\* scored for 8 ensemble parts plus 1 alto saxophone soloist

(12 soprano + 12 alto 1 + 12 alto 2 + 12 alto 3 + 12 alto 4 + 12 alto 5 + 12 tenor + 16 baritone + 1 alto soloist)

© 2014 Coolville Music ([www.coolvillemusic.com](http://www.coolvillemusic.com))

# Alto Saxophone 2

## What If

Mark Phillips

cue: *C. 4<sup>th</sup>*

alto soloist

*Cadenza - slowly and freely*  
*dolce*  
*pp~mp (ad lib.)*

Remove mouthpiece and blow air through instrument while rattling keys.

alto saxophones (tutti)  
*pp~mp (ad lib.)*

① Replace mouthpiece

(baritone saxes)

0:00 (approximate running time in minutes : seconds)

② (tenor saxes)

0:10

③ (alto 5 saxes)

0:15

④ (alto 4 saxes)

0:20

⑤ (alto 3 saxes)

0:30

0:40

On cue #6 from conductor:

Choose freely from the 5 musical motifs in the boxes. Play any number of these motifs in any order. Wide latitude is granted in the interpretation of these motifs, in terms of pacing, note duration, and length of silent pauses. Never repeat a motif in the exact the same manner. Avoid exact synchronicity with other players as much as possible.

cue  
⑥  
0:40

⑦ 0:45

⑧ 0:55

⑨ 1:15

1:25

(approximate running time in minutes : seconds)

**cue**  
**10**  
1:25

**On cue #10 from conductor:**  
Finish whatever motif you are currently playing (if any). Choose freely from the 4 musical motifs in the boxes below. Play any number of these motifs in any order. Wide latitude is granted in the interpretation of these motifs, in terms of pacing, note duration, length of silent pauses. Never repeat a motif in the exact the same manner. Avoid exact synchronicity with other players as much as possible.

Musical notation for cue 10. It consists of four boxes, each containing a musical staff with a specific motif. The motifs are:
 

- Box 1: *ppp ~ mp (ad lib.) ppp < mp > ppp*
- Box 2: *ppp ~ mp (ad lib.) > ppp < mp > ppp*
- Box 3: *ppp < mp > ppp ppp ~ mp (ad lib.)*
- Box 4: *ppp < mp > ppp*

 A timeline below the boxes shows a horizontal axis with a downward arrow labeled '11' at the 1:40 mark. The axis is labeled '1:25' at the start and '3:10' at the end.

**cue**  
**12**  
3:10

**On cue #12 from conductor:**  
Finish whatever motif you are currently playing (if any). Choose freely from the 5 musical motifs in the boxes below. Play any number of these motifs in any order. Wide latitude is granted in the interpretation of these motifs, in terms of pacing, note duration, length of silent pauses. Never repeat a motif in the exact the same manner. Avoid exact synchronicity with other players as much as possible.

Musical notation for cue 12. It consists of five boxes, each containing a musical staff with a specific motif. The motifs are:
 

- Box 1: *ppp ~ pp (ad lib.)*
- Box 2: *ppp ~ pp (ad lib.)*
- Box 3: *ppp ~ pp (ad lib.)*
- Box 4: *ppp ~ pp (ad lib.)*
- Box 5: *ppp ~ pp (ad lib.)*

 A timeline below the boxes shows a horizontal axis with a downward arrow labeled '13' at the 3:45 mark. The axis is labeled '3:10' at the start. The text 'Gradually fade out and stop playing, one by one.' is written above the axis. At the end of the axis, there are two short horizontal bars with the label '(bari saxes)' below them.

**cue**  
14

**cue**  
15

soloist

Cadenza - slowly and freely  
*dolce*

*mp*

*mp*

Remove mouthpiece and blow air through instrument, while rattling keys.

Drop out one by one.

alto saxes (tutti)

*pp~mp (ad lib.)*

**attacca** →

What if  
(movement II)

$\text{♩} = 80-88$

9 *soli* (~3 players)

(repeat 2-4 times)

*p* *p*

14

A

19 *soli* (~3 players)

*p* *mp*

25

30

B

*soli* (~3 players)

*p*

35

*soli* (~3 players)

*p* *p*

40

C

D

*tutti*

*ff*

50

*f*

53

**E**

*ff*

Musical staff 53-56: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 53 starts with a quarter rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measure 54 contains a boxed letter 'E'. Measure 55 has a dynamic marking of *ff*. Measure 56 ends with a quarter rest.

57

Musical staff 57-60: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measures 57-60 contain a complex melodic line with many beamed eighth and sixteenth notes, some with accents.

60

Musical staff 60-65: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measures 60-65 continue the melodic line with various rhythmic patterns and accents.

**F**

Musical staff 65-66: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 65 has a boxed letter 'F'. Measure 66 continues the melodic line.

66

Musical staff 66-69: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 66 has a dynamic marking of *f*. Measures 67-69 continue the melodic line.

69

**G**

~1/2 section

*mp* *mp*

Musical staff 69-73: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 69 has a boxed letter 'G'. Measure 70 has a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 71 has a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 72 has a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 73 continues the melodic line.

74

**H**

Musical staff 74-78: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 74 has a boxed letter 'H'. Measures 75-78 continue the melodic line.

79

~1/2 section

*mp* **2**

Musical staff 79-82: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 79 has a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 80 has a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 81 has a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 82 ends with a double bar line and a second ending bracket labeled '2'.

v.s. →

84 ~1/2 section

I

tutti

Musical staff 84-88. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 84 starts with a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. A dynamic marking of *mp* is below the staff. A hairpin crescendo begins in measure 85 and reaches *ff* by measure 88. A box labeled 'I' is above measure 87. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 89-91. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 89 starts with a whole note G4. Measure 90 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 91 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 92-93. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 92 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 93 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 94-96. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 94 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 95 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. Measure 96 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 97-98. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 97 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 98 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 99-101. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 99 starts with a whole note G4. Measure 100 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 101 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. A box labeled 'J' is above measure 99. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 102-104. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 102 starts with a whole note G4. Measure 103 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 104 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. A box labeled 'K' is above measure 103. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 105-108. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 105 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 106 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. Measure 107 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. Measure 108 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: C5, B4, A4. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4.

Musical staff 109-110. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp. Measure 109 starts with a whole note G4. Measure 110 contains a sixteenth-note triplet: G4, A4, B4. A dynamic marking of *mf* is below the staff, with a hairpin crescendo leading to *p*. A box labeled '2' is above measure 109. The staff ends with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4. A dynamic marking of *ff* with a hairpin crescendo is below the staff.