

Relentless, Randall D. Standridge, Wingert Jones Publications.

Recording: [Relentless by Randall D. Standridge | J.W. Pepper Sheet Music](#)

Program notes from the score:

Relentless is an aggressively active piece for concert band that is inspired by the belief that we all have the inner strength to be in our own way unstoppable if we choose to be. Inside all of us is a pool of energy, determination, and drive that we can utilize to overcome any obstacle or hardship that we may encounter. We must all be relentless in the pursuit of our dreams and convictions.

A grade 3 chart with lots of energy and some challenges both rhythmically, technique and range for all sections. Good percussion writing. Parallel major and minor keys, DM & dm.

Opening sets the character with ascending sixteenth runs in WW and mallets.

Meas. 3 we get our first eighth note ostinato that occurs throughout much of this piece. What changes is the accent pattern.

Meas. 5 the figure in trpt is a challenging 3 note pattern that sets against the meter.

Percussion 2 calls for china cymbal. Percussion 3 calls for brake drum.

Meas. 7 clarinet challenge is register. Low chalumeau register, staccato at this tempo.

Meas. 10 eighth notes are chromatic.

Meas. 15 space quarters in tuba, timp, bass cl.

Meas. 15 accent pattern first introduced in snare drum.

Meas. 23 accent pattern in low reeds and low brass. Two measure crescendo 23&24, 25&26, 27&28.

Meas. 27 accent pattern in most parts. Rehearse slowly. This is critical to capturing the character of the piece.

Meas. 31 is a two-measure percussion interlude, accent pattern continues. Timpani has three note motive.

Meas. 33 the lyrical theme is introduced. Snare drum continues the driving rhythmic feel.

Meas. 41 I ask those with quarter note theme to add space on the accent, so it is more *maestoso* in character. Flute and oboe now have the motive from measure 5 & 6 in trumpet.

Trumpet range is measures 43 – 48 asks for a B natural. This same range concern comes back at measure 81 – 88. The one range concern in this piece.

Meas. 55 – 62 is a change of texture and the rhythmic drive relaxes for eight measures.

Meas. 63 accent pattern returns. Careful attention to the dynamic contrast.

Meas. 73 is a return of the lyrical melody with a new counter line in clarinets. I ask this to be played one dynamic level more than indicated so this new line is heard. It maintains the rhythmic intensity.

Meas. 79 & 80 I balance to the horn and trumpet 2 line that leads to the final statement of the *maestoso* theme.

Lots of energy throughout. Good percussion. This piece came together quickly, and students enjoyed working on it.