

## **Poseidon**

for French Horn and Symphonic Band

Hardy Mertens, opus 185

commissioned by the "Marines Band's Friends" Foundation on occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Dutch Marines Band of the Royal Navy

dedicated to Jacob Slagter and Gert Buitenhuis

### **Program Note**

Poseidon, brother of Zeus, is the fierce and awesome God of All Seas.

This composition depicts seven fragments from Greek mythology, significant for Poseidon's complex character.

**PART ONE - Poseidon arises from the Sea [introduction]**

Poseidon has the power to merge complete with the sea in which he lives. Whenever he appears it is by complete surprise; whenever one is confronted with him, one gets overwhelmed with respect.

**PART TWO - Voyages in the Golden Carriage [score number 2]**

Poseidon recklessly travels in his golden carriage over the sea and causes heavy storms. He is able to split ships, mountains and islands in two with one stroke of his triple toothed fork.

**PART THREE - The Creation of the First Horse [score number 11]**

Poseidon bears a warm heart for the Athenians. Partly because of their plentiful offerings to him, he creates the first horse for them. The Athenians then become a horsetaming people.

**PART FOUR - The Adultery with Medousa [score number 14]**

Poseidon's lustuous love life leads to countless adulteries. He assumes the outlook of a horse to make to the gorgo Medousa.

**PART FIVE - The Wrath of Athena [score number 20]**

The Goddess Athena hears of Poseidon's adultery with Medousa in a temple dedicated to her. She punishes both Poseidon and Medousa for this blasphemy by turning Medousa's hair into snakes.

**PART SIX - The Love for Gaia [score number 23]**

Poseidon's love for the nymph Gaia is cursed by fate. All their children are born as monsters; their reciprocal affection only grows stronger.

**Poseidon's undisputed Divinity [score number 27]**

Poseidon's power cannot be disputed. The lives of all seafaring men are in his hands.

# I. Poseidon arises from the Sea

Very fast

Piccolo

Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

Clarinet 1

Clarinet 2

Clarinet 3

Bass Clarinet

Alto Saxophone

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

Solo-French Horn

Trumpet 1/2

Trumpet 3/4

French Horn 1/3

French Horn 2/4

Trombone 1/2

Trombone 3/4

Euphonium

Bass Tuba

Timpani

Snare Drum

Percussion

A full orchestral score for the piece 'I. Poseidon arises from the Sea'. The score is written for a large ensemble including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The tempo is marked 'Very fast'. The French Horns and Snare Drum parts are the only ones with musical notation, featuring complex rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings such as *ff* and *p*. The French Horn parts include accents and slurs. The Snare Drum part includes dynamic markings like *p*, *ff*, and *<ff* with slurs. The rest of the score is blank.



The musical score is arranged in a multi-staff format. The upper staves contain melodic lines for various instruments, featuring triplets and dynamic markings of *ff*. The lower staves include a percussion section with parts for Bass Drum and Tamtam, marked with *P* and *ff*. The notation is dense and includes various musical symbols such as beams, slurs, and accents.

Slow

This musical score is for the piece "3 - Poseidon" and is marked "Slow". It consists of multiple staves for different instruments. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The dynamics used include *p* (piano), *ff* (fortissimo), and *sf* (sforzando). A section of the score is marked "Suspended Cymbal" with a *p* dynamic. The score is arranged in a system with multiple staves, including a grand staff at the bottom. The notation includes complex rhythmic patterns and melodic lines.

[1] Very fast



The musical score consists of several systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line with a long note and a *ppp* dynamic marking. The second system features a piano accompaniment with multiple staves, each containing a long note with a *ppp* dynamic marking. The third system shows a complex rhythmic pattern with dynamic markings *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, and *p*. The fourth system continues this rhythmic pattern with *ff* markings. The fifth system shows a vocal line with a long note and a *ppp* dynamic marking. The sixth system features a piano accompaniment with a *ppp* dynamic marking. The seventh system includes a section for Bongo Drums with dynamic markings *p < ff*, *p*, *ff*, and *p*.

This musical score, titled "5 - Poseidon", is arranged for a large ensemble. It consists of 14 systems of staves. The first three systems are entirely blank. The fourth system contains a complex rhythmic pattern in the upper staves, featuring sixteenth-note runs with accents (>) and slurs. The fifth system continues this pattern with some rests. The sixth system shows a change in texture, with some staves containing notes and others being blank. The seventh system features a prominent bass line with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) and a series of sixteenth-note figures. The eighth system continues this bass line with dynamic markings of *p* (piano) and *ff*. The ninth system is mostly blank. The tenth system features a bass line with a dynamic marking of *p*. The eleventh system continues the bass line with dynamic markings of *ff* and *p*. The twelfth system is mostly blank. The thirteenth system features a bass line with a dynamic marking of *p*. The fourteenth system continues the bass line with dynamic markings of *ff* and *p*.



The musical score is written for a full orchestra. It consists of a grand staff with the following parts:

- Violins I and II
- Violas
- Celli
- Double Basses
- Woodwinds (Flutes, Clarinets, Bassoons)
- Brass (Trumpets, Trombones)
- Percussion: B.Dr. (Bass Drum), Tamt. (Tamtam), Susp. Cymb. (Suspension Cymbal)

The score is marked with a forte (*ff*) dynamic throughout most of the piece. It features numerous triplets and complex rhythmic patterns, particularly in the string and woodwind sections. The percussion parts are also highly rhythmic, with the B.Dr. and Tamt. playing a steady, driving pattern. The Susp. Cymb. part is more melodic and features dynamic changes from *p* to *ff* and back to *p*.

Slow

This musical score is for a piece titled "7 - Poseidon" and is marked "Slow". It consists of 14 systems of staves, each system containing two staves. The notation is highly detailed, featuring complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and various dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and *ff* (fortissimo). The score includes numerous slurs, accents, and hairpins, indicating a dynamic range from very soft to very loud. The piece concludes with a final *p* marking.



