

WORLD WAR II PIZZA MAN

For Jazz Ensemble

Composed by Mike Titlebaum

THE COMPLETELY TRUE STORY OF THE WORLD WAR II PIZZA MAN

One evening, several years ago.

I'd just moved to a new town I knew very little about. Once my phone was hooked up, I decided that my first task was to investigate local takeout options. With a quick thumbing through the yellow pages, I discovered that there was a pizza place right around the corner.

A man answered. I asked him if they had some kind of special veggie pizza.

"Sure," he said. "I've got all sorts of veggies."

"OK," I said excitedly. "I'll take one with whatever veggies you got."

"Great --- one veggie pie to go. Let me ask you, do you like garlic?"

"Sure, I like garlic," I said confidently.

"How much do you like garlic?" he asked, a bit more insistently.

I hesitated a moment, briefly considering who I might offend the next day if I smelled really bad. But, nobody came to mind. "I like garlic quite a bit."

"Alright. What's your name?

"Mike."

"Hey, I'm Mike, too!" he said animatedly. "I own this place. Give me about 45 minutes and I'll have it ready for you. You'll love it."

I was barely in town a few hours and I'd already met a friendly guy. I waited while my stomach started growling. I walked over to pick it up, went up to the counter and identified myself.

The now-familiar voice behind the counter said, "I'm Mike! I'm the one you talked to. I got your pie all ready for you."

He put the box on the counter, turned it towards me and opened it. "See how nice and brown the top is? That's fresh garlic. I think I got the garlic JUST right this time!"

This guy was really proud of his work. I thoroughly enjoyed that pizza. It was definitely worth a 2nd order the next time I was in the mood for it.

A couple weeks later.

I ordered a veggie pie from new favorite pizza place.

Mike greets me at the door. "Mike! Your pizza will be ready in just a minute."

"No problem," I say. Music is playing pretty loudly. In my mind it's vaguely ethnic, but I can't entirely place its origins. I ask him "Do you have any idea who's playing?"

"Sure," he answers quickly. "It's me! I used to be a keyboard player in L.A. I played in a bunch of Greek bands out there."

I was fascinated. I don't think I'd ever heard anything like this before. I told him I was a musician, too. We chatted about music and careers for a bit. He told me about the differences between Greek music and jazz --- the odd meters, the dancing, and the culture. I felt a sudden realization that there are very interesting people in the world, and I've gotten to be friendly with one of them.

"Hey, your pie is ready!" He put the box on the counter, turned it towards me and opened it. "I think I got the garlic JUST right this time!"

Several more weeks later.

I was so happy to have a great pizza place nearby. As I walked in, I noticed a really old jeep parked right out front.

"Is that old thing yours?" I asked him.

"Yeah! I make deliveries with it. It's not in good shape, but it works well enough. It's an authentic Army jeep. Not one of these commercial ones. This one was actually used in the army."

"Wow."

"Hey, your pizza isn't quite ready yet. It's going to be a few more minutes. Do you mind waiting?"

"Not at all." I didn't mind. The Greek music was blaring. I walked over to the wall and looked at some mounted pictures. I noticed photos of various guns --- rifles, handguns, machine guns, perhaps others.

Mike saw me looking at them. "You like those?"

"Uncertainly, I said "Hmm, I really don't know."

"Here, come check these out." He pulls out a picture album from under the counter and sets it on top. In one photo are pictures of grenades and many, many more weapons. In another shot there's entire racks of uniforms.

"Those are real German uniforms," he says. "Some regular soldiers, some SS. This is my living room." He turns the page. "This other rack here is in the bedroom."

"You've filled your whole house with Nazi uniforms?"

"Yeah. You like 'em?"

I paused a bit. I asked haltingly, "You know my last name is 'Titlebaum,' right?"

"Oh, don't worry, I'm not a 'neo.' I'm a historian. My friends and I put on underground art shows with our private collections. You know, if we don't collect these things, they'll be lost forever. The Holocaust museum in Washington displays these very same uniforms and weapons. We just think they shouldn't be the only ones who can display them."

He then went and brought me my pizza, turned the box to me, opened it, and said "I think I got the garlic JUST right this time!"

I enjoyed the pizza, but felt a little uneasy about the whole thing.

That night I had a strange, somewhat vague dream. It felt like a combination of several war movies. There's lots of quick movement all around. A uniformed soldier is running through a dirty trench, holding a pizza box, with bullets flying over his head and bombs exploding all around him. He's calling out, "Who ordered a pie?" Eventually, one wounded soldier on the ground, propped up on one elbow, holds up hand and says weakly, "I did." The delivery guy leans down, and at that moment I realize that the delivery guy is my pizza man Mike. He opens the pizza box and shows it to the soldier. "I think I got the garlic JUST right this time!"

I woke suddenly and looked at the clock. It was 3AM. I could still smell the garlic on my breath. I realized immediately that there had been music accompanying the whole scene, and it's still lingering precariously in my head. It sounded vaguely familiar, but also unlike anything I knew. Perhaps it had some Greek qualities, but also sounded a little like an Irish jig. But, it also reminded me of Sousa marches I played in school, but simultaneously felt a bit Klezmer. It was all very elusive, but I knew I needed to write it down as rapidly as possible.

I spent that entire work day, between teaching elementary band classes, desperately trying to notate it. I got one phrase down before 3rd grade clarinets, then another snippet came after 5th grade brass class. By the end of that afternoon, I had notated the entire melody. I already had the title: The World War II Pizza Man. I knew it was done, and that it was right. I very satisfied with it, and hadn't even heard it played yet.

Some months later.

I finished orchestrating the piece for the first performance. After the premiere, I told Mike I'd written something in his honor. I played him that first concert recording, and told him the title. I hoped he'd like it, but I could see he was pretty concerned about the whole thing.

I told him not to worry. He wouldn't be identifiable, but he still didn't seem entirely comfortable with this. I figured that was OK because I wasn't sure I was entirely comfortable with his explanation of his ownership of all that Nazi gear.

Not long after that he closed up his shop. I saw him one last time, in front of his boarded up store. He told me he'd received a contract to provide food for the nearby army base, and it was such a big contract that he wouldn't be able to continue selling at the storefront. I moved away soon thereafter.

Since then, the piece has been played quite a few times, and each time I hear it I get a little nostalgic thinking back on that brief yet formative part of my life.

I do very much hope you enjoy your slice from the World War II Pizza Man.

World War II Pizza Man

1 Slowly, conducted

Soprano Sax

Piccolo

Flute 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Slowly, conducted

Solo ad lib tempo:

Fill w/ a couple of soft, high notes

(melody cue)

If you have no Low C extension, tune E string down to D

Soft mallets:

12

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

tr

Fill w/ a couple
of soft, high notes

© Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform
without my permission. -Mike

Sop. 19

Picc. 21 Somewhat faster

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass Fill, slightly more active:

Drums Start softly filling in w/ various non-descript ethnic-sounding toys

Chimes: Fill, slightly more active:

Chimes: Fill, slightly more active:

Chimes:

Fill, slightly more active:

Fill, slightly more active:

Fill, slightly more active:

Start softly filling in w/ various non-descript ethnic-sounding toys

Chimes:

Chimes:

Chimes:

30

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

33 Slightly faster still

Fill, slightly more active:

'Trade' fills w/ bass

'Trade' fills with piano

Chimes:

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum
without my permission. Mike

Sop. 40
 Picc.
 Fl. 2
 Tenor Sax 2
 Baritone
 Trumpet 1
 Trumpet 2
 Trumpet 3
 Trumpet 4
 Trombone 1
 Trombone 2
 Trombone 3
 Tuba
 Piano
 Bass
 Drums

43

Tight plunger:
 wa wa wa + wa
 Tight plunger:
 wa wa wa + wa
 Tight plunger:
 wa wa wa + wa
 D
 Continue in same style:

Add a few soloistic trills

Sop. | Picc. | Fl. 2 | Tenor Sax 2 | Baritone | Trumpet 1 | Trumpet 2 | Trumpet 3 | Trumpet 4 | Trombone 1 | Trombone 2 | Trombone 3 | Tuba | Piano | Bass | Drums

45

(Slowly open plunger)

(Slowly open plunger)

(Slowly open plunger)

D

Copyright 2000 by Mike Thompson or permission.

Straight 8th pseudo-Irish/Greek/folksy/Klezmer/military march
♩ = 160-170

52

© Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission. -Mike

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Continue time in this style:
(bass enters)

Sop. 64

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Comp in D, freely varying
maj/mi/#11/9 kinda stuff.

Continue like this

p

f

p

f

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum.
Please do not print, copy or perform
without my permission.

72

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Change colors, use different cymbals

80

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Comp in D, freely varying
mod/mi#11/9 kinda stuff.

p

f

p

f

Back to orig feel

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform

88

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print, copy, or perform without my permission. Mike Littlebaum

96

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Comp in D, freely varying
mo/mi/#11/9 kind of stuff.

mp

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform

This is a page from a musical score for a 15-piece orchestra. The instrumentation listed on the left is: Soprano (Sop.), Piccolo (Picc.), Flute 2 (Fl. 2), Tenor Saxophone 2 (Tenor Sax 2), Baritone, Trumpet 1 (Trumpet 1), Trumpet 2 (Trumpet 2), Trumpet 3 (Trumpet 3), Trumpet 4 (Trumpet 4), Trombone 1 (Trombone 1), Trombone 2 (Trombone 2), Trombone 3 (Trombone 3), Tuba, Piano (with a note about harmonic variation), Bass, and Drums. The piano part includes a dynamic instruction 'mp'. The score is numbered 96 at the top left. A large, faint watermark reading 'Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum Please do not print, copy or perform' is diagonally across the page.

104

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission. -Mike

112

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Comp in D, freely varying
mod/mi/#11/9 kind of stuff.

mf

mf

tr

128

Sop. - *mf*

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2 - *mf*

Baritone - *mf*

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano
Comp in D, freely varying
maj/min/11/9 kinda stuff

Bass
Creative stuff STILL in D
mf

Drums *mf*

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform
without my permission.

136

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Copyright 2000 by Mike Titbaum
Please do not print, copy or perform.

144

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Copyright 2000 by Mike Titbaum
Please do not print, copy or perform.

152

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Now comp with more dominant octatonic #9/#11 kinda stuff

160

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission - Mike

168

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

mf

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

(unis. w/ 3rd bone)

Trombone 2

mf

Trombone 3

mf

Tuba

mf

Piano

G7(\sharp 11)

Bass

mf

Drums

mf

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titelbaum
without my permission. Mike

176

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano G7(\flat 9)

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission. Mike Titlebaum

184

Sop. *f*

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2 *f*

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2 *f*

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1 *f*

Trombone 2 *f*

Trombone 3 *f*

Tuba *f*

Piano { G7 F7 E \flat 7 D \flat 7

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission - Mike Titlebaum

192

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Almost drunken/smooth glissing:
(Never actually arrive at pitch --- just keep glissing)

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

(Maybe keep HH going, BUT ONLY if band needs it...)

Fill:

Please do not print 2000 by Mike Titlebaum

192

200

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

(Maybe keep HH going, BUT ONLY if band needs it...)

Fill:

(Maybe keep HH going, BUT ONLY if band needs it...)

Fill:

Bones 'lyrically'

212

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission. Mike Titelbaum

220

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3 *tr.* Trill in short bursts, out of sync with 4th tpt

Trumpet 4 *tr.* Trill in short bursts, out of sync with 2nd tpt

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print 2000 by Mike Titbaum without my permission. Mike

228

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1
Very crisp & tight.

Trumpet 2
Very crisp & tight.

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass
Add BD, cymbals, offbeat accents, or whatever else you like to give this more of a bad dream military march feel.

Drums

236

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titbaum
Please do not print, copy or perform

244

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission.

252

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Please do not print 2000 by Mike Littlebaum

260

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

"Time", same kinda thing as 52

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform

268

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums (Tpts melody)

Detune slowly at will,
1/2 step up & down

276

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Copyright 2009 by Mike Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission.

284

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Copyright 2000 by Max Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform
without my permission

Detune slowly at will,
1/2 step up & down

f

This is a page from a musical score. The page number '284' is in the top left corner. The score consists of ten staves. The vocal parts (Soprano, Piccolo) have short grace notes. The woodwind section (Flute 2, Tenor Sax 2, Baritone) play eighth-note patterns. The brass section (Trumpets 1-4) play sixteenth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes. The brass section (Trombones 1-3) play eighth-note patterns with slurs. The Tuba plays sustained notes. The Piano provides harmonic support with chords. The Bass and Drums provide rhythmic foundation. The score concludes with a dynamic marking of *f*. A large watermark in the center of the page reads 'Copyright 2000 by Max Titlebaum Please do not print, copy or perform without my permission'.

292

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

A La Mariachi:

A La Mariachi:

A La Mariachi:

Copyright 2000 by Mike Titlebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform

292

300

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

Detune slowly at will,
1/2 step up & down

Copyright 2008 by Michael Titlebaum
without my permission, do not print, copy or perform

308

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

© Copyright 2000 by Mike Trebaum
Please do not print, copy or perform.

316 ACCEL TO END

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano
Comp in D, freely varying
major/minor/11/9 kinda stuff

Bass

Drums

AS FAST AS POSSIBLE!

324

Sop.

Picc.

Fl. 2

Tenor Sax 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Tuba

Piano

Bass

Drums

(8va)

Let ring!