

Score

From Dust, We Will Rise

Saxophone Quartet

2022

Charles D. Norris

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Program Notes

From Dust, We Will Rise stands as a testament to the indomitable human spirit, drawing profound inspiration from the illustrious poem "Still I Rise" penned by the incomparable Maya Angelou. Angelou's poetic masterpieces have transcended time, serving as a beacon of unwavering hope and a resounding voice for the marginalized. In the depths of her verses, she fearlessly confronted the forces that sought to confine and oppress, igniting a fire within the hearts of countless individuals.

Within the fabric of "Still I Rise," Angelou weaves a tapestry of resilience, crafting a symphony of determination that resonates with the depths of our souls. It becomes a resplendent anthem of unwavering fortitude in the face of adversity—a reminder that when others conspire to drag us down and revel in our vulnerability, we summon the strength to rise time and again. Like the phoenix emerging from the ashes, we transform the dirt beneath our feet into a foundation of unwavering strength.

From Dust, We Will Rise endeavors to encapsulate the profound beauty concealed within moments of profound tribulation. It serves as a testament to the inherent power of the human spirit, illustrating our boundless capacity to transcend and overcome. Through meticulous orchestration, minute differences in rhythm become a poignant metaphor, symbolizing the grains of loose dirt beneath our shoes as we ascend, unyielding in the face of the world's challenges.

Through this composition, I strive to unravel the intricate layers of the human experience—the anguish, the resilience, and the relentless pursuit of transformation. It is an anthem that reverberates through the ages, reminding us that even amidst the darkest depths, we possess the inner strength to defy expectations, surpass limitations, and emerge as the embodiment of our highest potential.

From Dust, We Will Rise beckons us to embrace our shared humanity, to celebrate the triumph of the human spirit, and to find solace in the unwavering truth that, despite our transient existence, we are capable of leaving an everlasting impact. It is an ode to the resolute power of the human will, an opus that echoes through time, calling us to rise and embrace our destiny with unwavering courage.

For the Red Clay Saxophone Quartet

From Dust, We Will Rise **Fff**

For Saxophone Quartet

Charles D. Norris

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Adagio rubato con dolore (circa $\text{♩} = 69$)

Musical score for Soprano Sax in B \flat , Alto Sax in E \flat , Tenor Sax in B \flat , and Baritone Sax in E \flat . The score covers measures 1 through 5. Each part begins with a whole note rest, followed by a half note, and then a series of quarter notes. Dynamics include *n* (piano) and *pp* (pianissimo). A large slur spans across measures 1-5. A watermark "To Purchase, Visit charlesnorrismusic.com" is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for Soprano Sax (S. Sx.), Alto Sax (A. Sx.), Tenor Sax (T. Sx.), and Baritone Sax (B. Sx.). The score covers measures 6 through 9. Each part begins with a whole note rest, followed by a half note, and then a series of quarter notes. Dynamics include *n* (piano) and *pp* (pianissimo). A large slur spans across measures 6-9. A watermark "To Purchase, Visit charlesnorrismusic.com" is overlaid on the score.

10

S. Sx. *n* \triangleleft *p* *pp*

A. Sx. *n* \triangleleft *p* *pp*

T. Sx. *n* \triangleleft *p* *pp*

B. Sx. *n* \triangleleft *p* *pp*

13

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

17

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

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21

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

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25

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Musical score for measures 25-28. The Soprano staff (S. Sx.) features a long melodic line with a fermata over the final measure. The Alto (A. Sx.) and Tenor (T. Sx.) staves contain triplet markings over eighth notes. The Bass staff (B. Sx.) also features triplet markings and a long melodic line with a fermata.

29

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Musical score for measures 29-32. The Soprano staff (S. Sx.) includes dynamic markings *pp* and *p*, and a change in time signature from 3/4 to 4/4. The Alto (A. Sx.) and Bass (B. Sx.) staves also feature *pp* markings. The Tenor staff (T. Sx.) has a *pp* marking. Triplet markings are present in the Soprano and Bass staves.

33

S. Sx. *mp* *pp*

A. Sx. *mp* *pp*

T. Sx. *mp* *pp*

B. Sx. *mp* *pp*

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37

S. Sx. *mp*

A. Sx. *mp*

T. Sx. *mp*

B. Sx. *mp*

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Musical score for Soprano (S. Sx.), Alto (A. Sx.), Tenor (T. Sx.), and Bass (B. Sx.) voices, measures 41-44. The score is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 41-44 are marked with a common time signature. Dynamics range from *mf* to *fz*. The Soprano part features a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final measure. The Alto part includes a triplet in measure 42. The Tenor part features a triplet in measure 41. The Bass part has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final measure.

Musical score for Soprano (S. Sx.), Alto (A. Sx.), Tenor (T. Sx.), and Bass (B. Sx.) voices, measures 45-48. The score is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 45-48 are marked with a common time signature. Dynamics range from *ppp* to *p*. The Soprano part features a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final measure, including a triplet in measure 47. The Alto part has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final measure. The Tenor part has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final measure. The Bass part has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final measure.

49

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

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The musical score for measures 49-51 features four vocal parts: Soprano (S. Sx.), Alto (A. Sx.), Tenor (T. Sx.), and Bass (B. Sx.). Measure 49 begins with a triplet of eighth notes in the Soprano and Alto parts. The Soprano part has a long note in measure 50. The Alto part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 50. The Tenor part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 50. The Bass part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 50. All parts have a crescendo marking in measure 51. The Soprano and Alto parts have a triplet of eighth notes in measure 51. The Tenor part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 51. The Bass part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 51.

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52

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

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The musical score for measures 52-54 features four vocal parts: Soprano (S. Sx.), Alto (A. Sx.), Tenor (T. Sx.), and Bass (B. Sx.). Measure 52 begins with a triplet of eighth notes in the Alto part. The Soprano part has a long note in measure 52. The Alto part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 52. The Tenor part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 52. The Bass part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 52. All parts have a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic marking in measure 53. The Soprano part has a long note in measure 53. The Alto part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 53. The Tenor part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 53. The Bass part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 53.

56

S. Sx. *f* *p*

A. Sx. *fp* *f* *p*

T. Sx. *f* *p* *pp*

B. Sx. *f* *p* *pp*

61

S. Sx. *pp*

A. Sx. *pp*

T. Sx. *pp*

B. Sx. *pp*

65 *rit.*

S. Sx. *n pp*

A. Sx. *pp*

T. Sx. *n pp*

B. Sx. *n pp*

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69 *meaningful silence*

S. Sx. *ppp p n*

A. Sx. *ppp p n*

T. Sx. *ppp p n*

B. Sx. *ppp p n*

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