

# THE WHEEL

for Tenor Saxophone, Trombone and Piano

Poem by  
**WENDELL BERRY**

Music by  
**BRUCE TRINKLEY**

## THE WHEEL

*At the first strokes of the fiddle bow  
the dancers rise from their seats.  
The dance begins to shape itself  
in the crowd, as couples join,  
and couples join couples, their movement  
together lightening their feet.  
They move in the ancient circle  
of the dance. The dance and the song  
call each other into being. Soon  
they are one – rapt in a single  
rapture, so that even the night  
has its clarity, and time  
is the wheel that brings it round.*

*In this rapture the dead return.  
Sorrow is gone from them.  
They are light. They step  
into the steps of the living  
and turn with them in the dance  
in the sweet enclosure  
of the song, and timeless  
is the wheel that brings it round.*

**Wendell Berry** (b. 1934), author of poetry, fiction, and essays, writes from and about his farm in rural Kentucky. He has been concerned with global challenges to the environment, especially the plight of small farms in the world. He is a staunch advocate of the value of community: “Essential wisdom accumulates in the community much as fertility builds in the soil.”

Dedicated to the memory of Douglas N. Cook (1929-1984)

# The Wheel

For Tenor Saxophone, Trombone and Piano

**Wendell Berry**

from *The Wheel* (1982)\*

**Bruce Trinkley**

**Tenor Sax**

**Trombone**

**Piano**

**Slow dance**  $\text{♩} = 72$

**Sax**

**Trb.**

**Piano**

**5**

Musical score for Saxophone (Sax) and Trombone (Trb.) in G major, 6/8 time.

**Measure 9:** Both instruments play eighth-note patterns. The Saxophone's pattern consists of eighth-note pairs connected by slurs. The Trombone's pattern is more complex, featuring eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note figures. Dynamic: *f*.

**Measure 10:** The Trombone continues its eighth-note pattern. The Saxophone's dynamic changes to *mf*. The Trombone's dynamic changes to *mp*, followed by *cresc.*

**Measure 14:** The Saxophone's pattern becomes more rhythmic, with eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note figures. The Trombone's pattern is similar. Dynamics: *mf* (Sax), *mp* (Trombone).

**Measure 15:** The Trombone's pattern remains consistent. The Saxophone's dynamic changes to *mf*. The Trombone's dynamic changes to *mp*.

**Measure 16:** The Trombone's pattern is rhythmic. The Saxophone's dynamic changes to *f*. The Trombone's dynamic changes to *mp*. The dynamic then changes to *f* again.

**Measure 18:** The Saxophone's pattern consists of eighth-note pairs. The Trombone's pattern is rhythmic. Dynamic: *rit.* The dynamic then changes to *mp*.

**Measure 19:** The Trombone's pattern is rhythmic. The dynamic changes to *rit.* The dynamic then changes to *mp*.

**Measure 20:** The Trombone's pattern is rhythmic. The dynamic changes to *mp*.

**Meno mosso**  $\text{♩} = 66$ 

Sax

Trb.

Sax

Trb.

Sax

Trb.

Sax

Trb.

Sax

Trb.

21

21

25

30

poco rit.

a tempo

sub.p

mp sonore

sub.p

poco rit.

a tempo

f

p

mp sonore

30

**Andante espressivo**  $\text{♩} = 56$

34

Sax

Trb.

34

*mp sonore*

*p*

*p*

38

Sax

Trb.

38

*p*

*p*

**Poco piu mosso**  $\text{♩} = 60$

43

Sax

*f sonore*

*mf*

Trb.

*f sonore*

*mf*

43

*f*  $\frac{\text{G}}{\text{E}}$  *sonore*

*mf*

**Largo**  $\text{d} = 54$

Sax:  $mp \leftarrow mf$

Trb.:  $mp \leftarrow mf$

**Larghetto con moto**  $\text{d} = 63$

Sax:  $mp$

Trb.:  $mp > p mp$

*accel. e cresc. poco a poco*

**54**

Sax:  $p$

Trb.:  $p$

*accel. e cresc. poco a poco*

**59**

Sax:  $mp$

Trb.:  $mp$

**mf**

Sax:  $mp$

Trb.:  $mp$

**mf**

Sax Trb.

63

*f* *mf*

63

*f* *mf*

67

Sax Trb.

67

*mp*

71

*molto allargando*

*mp*

71

*molto allargando*