

REDEMPTION RIDE

Redemption Ride is a shout out to the world, an affirmation of the loudest kind. It's about that moment when you take back your mojo and double down on life in all of its messy glory. The musical metaphor is a high-speed ride on horseback. It's set to a galloping rhythm and filled with heroic fanfares and over-the-top gestures of all kinds. It's an exuberant work, sheer exhilaration.

Redemption Ride was originally written as the fourth movement of THOUSAND MILE SUITE, an orchestral work inspired by epic adventures and heroic quests such as Lord of the Rings. The brass-heavy sound and the driving rhythm made it a natural for conversion to wind ensemble. In the wind ensemble version, I've been able to take the most high-energy elements of the work and crank them up even higher. The momentum has gotten a serious boost from the addition of extra percussion, including a hi-hat and some persistently rhythmic mallet parts, which add flow, color, groove and drive to the basic soundtrack-like nature of the piece.

There are interjections and interludes of various kinds - horn calls, large-scale fiddle riffs (played without fiddles) and even an intimate woodwind duet in a rare quiet moment. But we always find ourselves back on that horse eventually, hanging on for dear life and careening towards redemption.