

Always the Return, Adagio from 12:01PM at 4:33 by © Stephen Melillo IGNA December 1990

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Dear Conductor... Thank you for believing in, and investing in the body of work called STORMWORKS. Once you've tasted the possibilities and experienced the reactions from your students and audiences, a large body of interrelated work awaits you. If you've invested in the whole package or Suite... Bravo. It was the best way to go. The STORMSite at www.stormworld.com provides up-to-date info on all that is happening with STORMWORKS. Thanks so much for championing this Music and Godspeed in the journeys ahead.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

One wouldn't think of buying software without having the appropriate hardware. With this same common-sense thinking, conductors rendering "Storm" Works should be properly equipped.

In the Band of the 3rd Millennium, the orchestration employed in the body of work called Stormworks, we find the standard wind and percussion ensemble augmented by the use of 2 synthesizers. A seemingly innocent leap, it is replete with functionality. The generic sounds ascribed to the synthesizers are: PAD Bass, (sometimes Piano and/or Chorus) and Harp. Comments about the types of sounds and manner of interpreting the varied notation may be found in the Brief Intro to the Music of Stephen Melillo... with FAQs residing on the STORMSite at stormworld.com.

In 1980, the cost for such an undertaking was significant. Now, for a cost-effective, multi-useful investment, your program can be readily equipped. Of course, this is only if you are completely *un*-equipped right now! Most music programs will have at least one student who owns a synthesizer, or at least knows someone who does. In the early 1980s, I was able to recruit a great number of students simply by suggesting that there was a place for them in the "electronics" section! I invite you, *now with Music that calls for it*, to be champions of a wider and fuller Music Education.

On the STORMWORKS CDs, you will hear how these sounds, placed in a stereo field around the band... as in the diagram on the seating chart page... enhances the overtone hierarchy and resonance of the band while remaining somewhat "traditional" in its orchestral usage. Two speakers, lying flat on the floor, should be placed so that the sound is directed back into the ensemble.

As we approach all of the new tomorrows, students need to play Music, that while serving the cause and purpose of Music Education, excites them... Music which sonically *competes* with the inundation of supremely produced sounds they hear in their every day lives.

A vast variety of interrelated and graduated pieces as well as accompanying Teaching Tools await you.

Now, as always, it's up to you. Only you can be the guide your students need, and only you can deliver this Music to that limitless realm we refer to as Music. To that Quest, noble and honorable, Godspeed!

Stephen Melillo, Composer

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