

CAGENZA AFTER VAN HALEN

"Eruption" (1976/2024)

for solo alto saxophone

Adapted for saxophone by Dylan Pich

PROGRAM NOTE:

This cadenza was composed and arranged from Eddie Van Halen's revolutionary guitar solo "Eruption" from Van Halen's 1978 self-titled debut album. The version on *Van Halen* is famously known for being a recording of Eddie practicing the solo before a live performance – an impressive warm-up!

Initially, this arrangement was going to be a transcription of the "Eruption" solo meant to be performed on saxophone exactly as Eddie did it on guitar, however...Eddie was far too good and I believe it is impossible to play "Eruption" on a saxophone with the same speed and precision that Eddie makes sound like a breeze. Thus, this cadenza was adapted to best fit the capabilities of an alto saxophone in terms of range and technique. The key was changed from the original for ease of facility, but the major sections all mirror those found in the original guitar solo.

Performance Notes:

Take liberties! This is a cadenza inspired by an improvisatory guitar solo, so it is perfectly acceptable for the saxophonist to make it their own.

If circular breathing is possible, it is advisable to do so. If circular breathing is *not* an option for the performer, breaths in the final section are marked with a bracket and a comma. In these instances, one can omit the bracketed notes to take a breath.

Beginning at measure 20, triple-tonguing is recommended.

Cadenza after Van Halen – Eruption for saxophone

Eddie Van Halen (1955-2020) adapted for saxophone by Dylan Pich







