## Flexible Music USA

contemporary music for ensembles

## Russell Scarbrough

# ABANDONED IN PLACE

### **Instrumentation:**

Alto Saxophone 1	Trombone 1
Alto Saxophone 2	Trombone 2
Tenor Saxophone 1	Trombone 3
Tenor Saxophone 2	Bass Trombone
Baritone Saxophone	

Trumpet 1 Vibes
Trumpet 2 Guitar
Trumpet 3 Piano
Trumpet 4 Bass
Trumpet 5 Drum Set

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#### About **ABANDONED IN PLACE**:

This simple tune, originally written for the Houghton College Jazz Ensemble, is meant to evoke bittersweet feelings of nostalgia and longing. The entire piece was built around the alto solo vamp, which is basically the two alternating chords from the first part of Erik Satie's Gymnopédie No. 1.

Check out the 2023 recording "Fun Times" by the Russell Scarbrough Big Band for a full recording of this chart, with beautiful solos by Clay Jenkins on trumpet and Matt Vashlishan on alto saxophone.

In the aforementioned solo section, the sensible choice would be to eliminate either the vibes or the guitar, have the remaining instrument play very sparsely, and let the piano play most of the chordal comping. If the players are more sensitive, and willing to play very quietly, it's possible that two chord instruments could play together for a richer effect. On "Fun Times", we eliminated the guitar, and the vibes were very quiet, using soft mallets to minimize the attacks and mostly letting chords sustain, while the piano played a more active comping role.



