COPS

By

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Cops

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Chair

Dr. Bryan Haaheim

Date Approved: October 13, 2016
Abstract

This work is a musical score for Buster Keaton's 1922 short film "Cops."\(^1\) The music revisits the great 'Cop Show' soundtracks of the 1960s and 1970s on American TV and is an homage to the composers of this era - e.g. Henry Mancini(1924-1994), Billy Goldenberg(1936), John Cacavas(1930-2014), Lalo Shifrin(1932), and Morton Stevens(1929-1991). The project involved a complete reimagining of the film using modern audio techniques that were not available to Keaton at the time of the film's production. Sound effects and dialog were added to further convey a 1970s 'feel'. The opening and ending credits were altered for the same reason - the body of the film remains unedited. Only the score is included in this document.

This score is intended for a live performance during a screening of the film. The screening version of the film contains sound effects and dialog but no music. There is also a click track so that the conductor can synchronize the live performance with the film.\(^2\)

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\(^1\) The film is now in the public domain. The version used can be found at the Archive.org website and has the url <https://archive.org/details/CopsbusterKeaton>.

\(^2\) To view a completed version of the film or to acquire the performance version (with a click track and no music) contact the author.
Acknowledgements

The success and final outcome of this dissertation required a lot of time, patience, and hard work. Whatever I have done is only due to the support I have received from my wife Nelma every single day.

I respect and thank Dr. Haaheim for encouraging me to reimagine the audio for this film. Working on this project was like a dream come true. The orientation and guidance given to me by him was crucial and without it this project would not have been possible.

Also, I wish to thank the members of my committee for their support, patience, and always good humor.

Finally, I would like to thank God, my mother Aparecida (in memoriam), my kids (Vitor, Clara, and Heitor), and all of my friends who listened to my complaints with love.
Film COPS

Starring Buster Keaton

_in Full Score_

Music written by Tony Moreira
Instrumentation

- 2 Flutes
- 2 Bb Clarinets
- 3 C trumpets
- 2 Tenor Trombones
- 1 Bass Trombone
- Timpani
- Glockenspiel
- Percussion- (Bass drum, Snare drum, Gong, Tam-tam, Crash cymbals, Wood block, Castanets, Triangle, Wind chimes, Bell tree)
- Conga Drums
- Celesta
- 4 Violins
- 4 Violas
- 4 Cellos
- Electric Guitar (Fender Stratocaster preferred)
- Piano and Synthesizer (one player)
- Electric Bass (fretless preferred)
- Drum set
Performance Notes

1. For the conductor

- This work is intended for performance along with a screening of Buster Keaton's 1922 silent film 'Cops.' See 'For the Sound Engineer' below for suggestions about setting up the orchestra and sound system.
- This piece is organized into 21 musical cues which accompany important scenes and all intertitles (filmed cards that feature brief dialog and exposition that are inserted into the live action segments of the movie).
- A click track has been included to allow the conductor to synchronize the live music with the film. Before each musical cue there are two measures with click track only. The first measure sets up the tempo and prepares the conductor to cue the musicians.
- Cue 13 - Pulling the Horse and the Wagon is an exception. Four measures of 2/4 will be set for the conductor. The first two measures set the tempo and the other two are for counting off.
- The click track for cue 19 - Chasing Mr. Keaton changes from 186 bpm to 200 bpm on the downbeat of rehearsal Q (m158) where the meter changes from 4/4 to 5/4.

2. For the Performers

- In the Opening and Closing sections some guitar effects are required in order to convey the type of sound that would have been used in a 1970's 'cop show' soundtrack. In the score the term Clean refers to a straight forward guitar sound (with no effects) - I would prefer having a Fender Stratocaster with the switch set in the second position activating pick-ups one (bridge) and two (middle). The term distortion refers to a tube distortion similar to the timbre Brian May of Queen used for his solos. The tremolo effect refers to the amplitude effect built into old Fender amps. You can see exactly what I'm looking for by watching this you tube link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOCNB1izw8A
- For the Electric bass part I would prefer a fretless bass but any bass can be used.
- In cue 14 - Bringing the Horse to the Dr. Smith’s Office - the pianist will play one chord on the synthesizer using a smooth analog swell pad. The sound that I used for the recording was using Logic Pro X's “ES2” virtual instrument and is called “Analog Swell”. If this sound is not available the link below demonstrates the type of timbre to use.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8FeNJ2nJfk (the first thirty seconds)
3. For the Sound Engineer

- The film is intended to be run from a computer (a DVD version is available on request).
- The three channels of audio are set up in the following manner:
  - Left and Right channel have the dialog, Foley, and sound effects. These tracks should be routed to the sound system. They may be routed to the conductor's headphones if he or she desires.
  - The Center channel has the click track and should be routed to the conductor's headphones only.
- Instrumentation should be set as shown on the diagram below.
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1. Main Title
Opening

Tony Moreira

Flutes 1-2
Click for Conductor
Count off
With Energy

Clarinets in B 1-2

Trumpets in C 1-2-3

Trombones 1-2

Bass Trombone

Timpani

Glockenspiel

Percussion

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Electric Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

(a) 1. Main Title

With Energy

Clarinets in B 1-2

Trumpets in C 1-2-3

Trombones 1-2

Bass Trombone

Timpani

Glockenspiel

Percussion

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Electric Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

(a)
2. "I Won't Marry You"

\[
\text{Click for Conductor}
\]

\[
\text{Count off}
\]

Piano

\[
\text{Ped.}
\]

\[
\text{mf}
\]

\[
\text{*}
\]
3. Keaton's Blues

Swing! \( \frac{4}{4} \) (for an authentic blues feel musicians may freely interpret this music as desired) 4 times

Click for Conductor

Count off

F7

Electric Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

4 times

Glissando

E.Gtr.

Pno.

D. S.
4. Calling The Moving Company

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]
5. "I'm Broke, Man"

\[ \text{\( \frac{3}{4} \) } \]  
\[ \text{Piano} \]

\[ \text{Ped.} \]

Click for Conductor

Count off

\[ \text{Ped.} \]

\[ \text{mp} \]

\[ f \]

\[ \text{Ped.} \]
6. "If I Don't Sell My Furniture"

Piano

\[ \text{Piano} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Piano} \]

\[ \text{Ped.} \]

\[ 00:03:47.000 \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Ped.} \]

\[ * \]
7. "I'm a Business Man"

Piano

Count off

Click for Conductor

Ped.

mf

f

*
8. Buying the Horse and Wagon

Flutes 1-2

Clarinets in B 1-2

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Fl.  

B♭ Cl.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.
9. Picking up the Furniture
10. Driving the Wagon

\[ j = 135 \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Begin Driving} \]

Flute 1

Flute 2

Clarinet in B\textsuperscript{b} 1

Clarinet in B\textsuperscript{b} 2

Trumpet in C 1

Trumpet in C 2

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Piano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello
Officer wakes up after being punched.

Egg shaker

Large gong (Yarn mallets)

Castanets

Ped.
Dreaming in the wagon
11. Arrested for Speeding

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Ped.} \]
12. Continuing After the Headphones

Flute 1

Flute 2

Clarinet in B♭ 1

Clarinet in B♭ 2

Trumpet in C 1

Trumpet in C 2

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Egg shaker

Castanets

Piano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello
13. Pulling the Horse and the Wagon

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

---

Timpani

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

---

Timp.

Vln. I

pizz.

mp

mp

pizz.

Vln. II

Vla.

pizz.

mp

Vc.

mp
14. Bringing the Horse to Dr. Smith's Office

\[ \text{Tempo: } 135 \]

Click for Conductor

Count off

Timpani

Synth Pad

\( \text{mf} \)

Analog Swell

\( \text{mp} \)

\( \text{mf} \)

\( \text{pp} \)

Timp.

Pad

Timp.
15. Leaving Dr. Smith's Office

Click for Conductor

Count off

Flute

Clarinet in B♭

Trumpet in C

Percussion

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello
16. Mr. Keaton Retrieves His Hat

\[ \text{Click Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Wood block w/ drum sticks} \]

\[ \text{Percussion} \]

\[ \text{Violin I} \]

\[ \text{Violin II} \]

\[ \text{Viola} \]

\[ \text{Cello} \]

\[ j = 148 \]

\[ 00:10:38.000 \]

\[ \text{Perc.} \]

\[ \text{Vln. I} \]

\[ \text{Vln. II} \]

\[ \text{Vla.} \]

\[ \text{Vc.} \]
17. Parade

\[ \text{Piano} \]
\[ \text{Pno.} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\( \frac{3}{4} \)

\( \text{f} \)
18. "It's a Pleasure to Meet You"

\[ \text{\( j = 135 \)} \]

\[ \text{Click for Conductor} \]

\[ \text{Count off} \]

\[ \text{Piano} \]

\[ \text{mp} \]

\[ \text{Ped.} \]
19. Chasing Mr. Keaton

Tony Moreira

Flute 1-2

Clarinet in B

Trumpet in C 1-2

Bass Trombone

Trumpet in C 3

Drum Set

Violin II

Piano

Cello

Viola

Electric Guitar

Bass

Conga Drums

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Castanets

Medium gong

Medium gong

Celesta

With Tension

Keaton holds the bomb.

Click for Conductor

00:13:01.000

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"Protect our Policemen..."
Lettering "What happened to our Furniture?"

Wait until click comes back

Keaton hides indoors

Who/Wha Pedal
$ = closed, o = open

Count off

Click for Conductor

00:15:04.000
Keaton gets out of the chest
Swinging in the ladder
Policeman hitting the nightstick on the sidewalk.
20. Farewell
21. Closing Credits

Tony Moreira

Flutes 1-2

Clarinets in Bb 1-2

Trumpets in C 1-2-3

Trombones 1-2

Bass Trombone

Timpani

Glockenspiel

Percussion

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Electric Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

With Energy a2

Click for Conductor

Count off

00:18:52.000

(With Energy a2)

Suspended cymbal

(medium yarn beater)

Fortissimo preferred

Snares

Crash

Tom1

Tom2

Bass

Drum Set

Guitar

Violin

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Electric Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set
Feel free to add your own rhythm in this part. Hit the last 2 quarter notes with everybody.

D. S.