Psyche

Psyche is both the name of an asteroid orbiting the Sun between Mars and Jupiter — and the name of a NASA space mission to visit that asteroid, led by Arizona State University. The mission was chosen by NASA on January 4, 2017 as one of two missions for the agency’s Discovery Program, a series of relatively low-cost missions to solar system targets.

The Psyche Inspired program was started to bring undergraduate students from any discipline or major together to share the excitement, innovation, and scientific and engineering content of NASA’s Psyche mission with the public in new ways through artistic and creative works.

Learn more about Psyche and Psyche Inspired at https://psyche.asu.edu/mission/

Composer’s Notes

Journey is a piece I wrote to capture the feelings of the Psyche spacecraft’s journey to its namesake, the asteroid Psyche. My inspiration came from the balance between the solemn yet dignified solitude the spacecraft will experience and the knowledge that, ultimately, it is coming from a place of great knowledge and going somewhere to accomplish something greater. I had assistance from Dr. Rockmaker of ASU’s School of Music, who guided me through the specifics of classically oriented composition. The form of my piece was inspired by the exposition of a typical sonata, featuring a first theme in Db major, a second theme in Ab major, and ending with a recapitulation back in Db.

Cover page designed and illustrated by Brianna Orill
Composed as a part of NASA's Psyche Inspired program in 2018
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