

ANITA BROWN JAZZ ORCHESTRA

PO Box 242 Nyack, NY 10960 (845) 358-1634 www.anitabrownmusic.com

Parameters & Options in Big Band Writing:

An analysis of

The Lighthouse

Composed & Arranged by Anita Brown

Scored for 5 reeds, 4 trumpets, 1 French horn, 4 trombones, piano, bass, drums.

As recorded on "Anita Brown Jazz Orchestra: 27 EAST"
available at

www.anitabrownmusic.com

***Tone Poem:** See "Symphonic Poem"

***Symphonic Poem:** An extended orchestral composition which follows in its development the thread of a story or the ideas of a poem, repeating and interweaving its themes appropriately; it has no fixed form, nor has it set divisions like those of the symphony.

*Schirmer Pocket Manual of Musical Terms, Edited by T. Baker, 4th ed., Schirmer Books, 1978.

+ "Sitting on a rock at the foot of the Montauk Lighthouse brought this melody forth on a chilly, overcast day in February. Its orchestration depicts the regularity of the lighthouse's revolving arms of light, welcoming, beckoning and warning travelers by land and sea. As it stands silently, mysteriously, majestically it observes and averts peril. It endures ever changing tides, weather and the erosion of its own footing. Yet it remains seemingly unaffected by the sensuous spray and the violent clashing of the sea."

+ Liner notes, "Anita Brown Jazz Orchestra: 27 EAST," Anita Brown, Lasheda Records, 2003.

Analysis Presentation In Short

In writing a piece which seems to have a mind of its own and is unusual compared to a customary point of departure,

1. set your parameters and
2. examine/define your options.

My Options for "The Lighthouse"

Continue to follow my **instincts** in addressing the need for forward motion through

- Orchestration
- Harmony
- Rhythm

1. ORCHESTRATION: Conscious effort to create **contrasts and drama**
2. HARMONY: Create **energy** rather than traditional forward movement
3. RHYTHM: Consider **new models** for shout chorus

We will examine several excerpts born of the combination of instinctive and intellectual application of these basic ideas.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

+ "On an historical note, the construction of the Montauk Lighthouse was commissioned by George Washington. It originally stood 200 yards from the bluff's edge. Erosion is responsible for having altered that measurement by 100 yards, as it remains today."

Today The Montauk Lighthouse continues to face the perils of erosion. For more information visit www.montauklighthouse.com