

# THE WHEEL

for Trombone and Piano  
with optional Violin, Flute, Clarinet or Trumpet

Poem by

WENDELL BERRY

Music by

BRUCE TRINKLEY

## THE WHEEL

*At the first strokes of the fiddle bow  
the dancers rise from their seats.  
The dance begins to shape itself  
in the crowd, as couples join,  
and couples join couples, their movement  
together lightening their feet.  
They move in the ancient circle  
of the dance. The dance and the song  
call each other into being. Soon  
they are one – rapt in a single  
rapture, so that even the night  
has its clarity, and time  
is the wheel that brings it round.*

*In this rapture the dead return.  
Sorrow is gone from them.  
They are light. They step  
into the steps of the living  
and turn with them in the dance  
in the sweet enclosure  
of the song, and timeless  
is the wheel that brings it round.*

**Wendell Berry** (b. 1934), author of poetry, fiction, and essays, writes from and about his farm in rural Kentucky. He has been concerned with global challenges to the environment, especially the plight of small farms in the world. He is a staunch advocate of the value of community: “Essential wisdom accumulates in the community much as fertility builds in the soil.”

Dedicated to Tully Cook  
in memory of his grandfather, Douglas N. Cook (1929-1984)

# The Wheel

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Wendell Berry  
from *The Wheel* (1982)\*

Bruce Trinkley

Slow dance ♩ = 72

Trombone

Piano

Tr.

Vln.

Piano

Tr.

Vln.

Piano

14

Tr.

Vln.

*f*

*mp*

*f*

*mp*

18

Tr.

Vln.

*rit.*

*mp*

*rit.*

*p*

Meno mosso  $\text{♩} = 66$

22

Tr.

Vln.

*p*

*p*

26

Tr. *poco rit.*

Vln. *mf cresc. poco a poco f sub. p*

*cresc. poco a poco f poco rit.*

31

Tr. *a tempo* *sonore*

Vln. *p*

*a tempo* *p* *mp sonore*

**Andante espressivo** ♩ = 56

35

Tr.

Vln.

*p*

*p*

40 *sonore*

Tr.

Vln.

*mp* *f*

*f* *sonore*

**Poco piu mosso**  $\text{♩} = 60$

46 *mf* *mp* *mf*

Tr.

**Largo**  $\text{♩} = 54$

Vln.

*mf* *p* *mf*

52 *a tempo* *rit.* **Larghetto con moto**  $\text{♩} = 63$

Tr.

*mp*

Vln.

*pp* *mp*

52 *a tempo* *rit.*

*pp*

57 *accel. e cresc. poco a poco*

Tr. *mp*

Vln. *p* *mp*

61 *mf* *f*

Tr. *mp cresc. poco a poco*

Vln. *mp* *mf*

65 *f*

Tr.

Vln. *f*

68

Tr.

Vln.

Musical score for measures 68-70. The Tr. part has a long note with a slur. The Vln. part has a melodic line with slurs. The piano part has chords and a bass line with slurs.

71

Tr.

Vln.

71

*molto allargando*

71

*molto allargando*

Musical score for measures 71-73. The Tr. part has a long note with a slur and the instruction "molto allargando". The Vln. part has a long note with a slur. The piano part has chords and a bass line with slurs.