

Gwyneth Walker



MATCH POINT

for Band

I. TUNING UP
II. ANTICIPATION
III. THE POINT
IV. MARCHE TRIOMPHANTE

Duration: 6 Minutes

Performance Notes

Match Point is a musical dramatization of a tennis point. It is suggested that the conductor wear tennis clothes, or at least a tennis hat. Band players may also wear tennis clothing such as wristlets, headbands, tennis hats and/or sneakers. The conductor must be prepared to conduct the last two movements (“**The Point**” and “**Marche Triomphante**”) with a tennis racquet.

Hints of tennis strokes are marked in the score to be used at the discretion of the conductor. For example, the Percussionists are asked to transform their performance gestures into forehand and backhand strokes. And, any other modifications of playing techniques (perhaps invented by the band members) to approximate a game of tennis would be welcome.

If the conductor happens to be a tennis player, he/she may add additional tennis flourishes as desired. However, it is not necessary that the conductor play tennis. A short consultation with a tennis player (of any level of ability!) should provide sufficient preparation for performance.

Required equipment includes:

A bag of yellow tennis balls — *for dropping on drums and muting brass*

Several ice cubes and a glass — *for the ending*

tennis racquet(s) — *for the conductor*

Match Point

Gwyneth Walker

I. Tuning Up

Conductor walks onto stage carrying tennis racquet(s) and other tennis equipment, if desired. Band tunes to concert Bb. Conductor listens to tension of racquet strings, "tunes up" racquets, limbers up, ad lib.

II. Anticipation

With subdued excitement

tennis balls dramatically dropped onto drumhead
(each player, when cued by conductor, drops many balls and lets them bounce off across the stage)

The musical score for the drum set is written on five staves, each representing a different drum: Timpani, Snare Drum, Tenor Drum, Tom-Tom, and Bass Drum. The music is in 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a rest, followed by a cue 'x' and a series of quarter notes. The notes are followed by a dense, dotted line representing a continuous rhythmic pattern. The text 'repeat ad lib.' is written below each staff. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

A ♩ = 80

Picc. *p* *anxiously*

Fl. *p* *anxiously*

Ob. *p* *anxiously*

Cl. *p* *anxiously*

Alto Cl. *p* *anxiously*

Bass Cl. *p* *anxiously*

Bsn. *p* *anxiously*

Alto Sax. *p* *anxiously*

Tenor Sax. *p* *anxiously*

Bari Sax. *p* *anxiously*

A ♩ = 80

Tpt.

Horns *p* *anxiously*

Trb.

Euph. *p* *anxiously*

Tuba *p* *anxiously*

Timp. *cresc. sempre più*

Snare Dr. *cresc. sempre più*

Tenor Dr. *cresc. sempre più*

Tom-Tom *cresc. sempre più*

Bass Dr. *cresc. sempre più*

accel. **B** ♩ = 108

Picc. *mf*

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Alto Cl. *mf*

Bass Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Alto Sax. *mf*

Tenor Sax. *mf*

Bari. Sax. *mf*

accel. **B** ♩ = 108

Tpt. *mf* importantly *p* echo

Horns *mf* importantly *p* echo

Trb. *mf* importantly *p* echo

Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Snare Dr.

Tenor Dr.

Tom-Tom

Bass Dr.

Crash Cym. *mf*

Match Point

muted with tennis balls
each player holds 3 yellow tennis balls in front of bell
(players may stand)

open

Picc. *mf excitedly*

Fl. *mf excitedly*

Ob.

Cl.

Alto Cl.

Bass Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Tenor Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. *remove mute*

Horns

Trb. *(players sit) remove mute*

Euph.

Tuba *mf*

Timp.

Glock. *mf*

Bass Dr.

Crash Cym. *mf*

p

Picc. *mf*

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *sfp* *mf*

Alto Cl. *sfp* *mf*

Bass Cl. *sfp* *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Alto Sax. *mf*

Tenor Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. *mf* (open)

Horns *mf* (open)

Trb.

Euph. *mf*

Tuba

Timp.

Glock. *mf* (as a backhand) gliss.

Snare Dr. *mf*

Tom-Tom *mf*

Bass Dr.

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *(mf)*

Alto Cl. *(mf)*

Bass Cl. *(mf)*

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Tenor Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt.

Horns *(open)* *mf*

Trb. *mf* *(open)* *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba

Timp. *mf*

Glock.

Snare Dr.

Triangle

Tom-Tom *mf*

Bass Dr.

Match Point

molto accel. into FRENZY

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Alto Cl.

Bass Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Tenor Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt.

Horns

Trb.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Glock.

Snare Dr.

Triangle

Tom-Tom

Bass Dr.

Match Point

Conductor exchanges


baton for


tennis racquet.

III. The Point

The players at the front of the band are divided into four sections: from **1**, at the conductor's far left, to **4** at the far right.

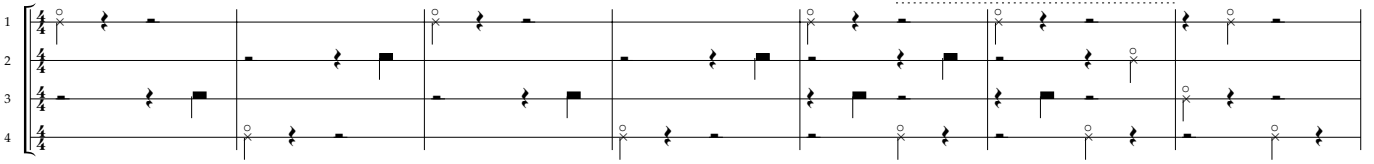
These groups are the "competitors" in the point. The other members of the band follow the back-and-forth flight of the ball with their instruments held up for the audience to see.

 = "pop" of finger against inside of cheek

 = light "thud" of foot on floor

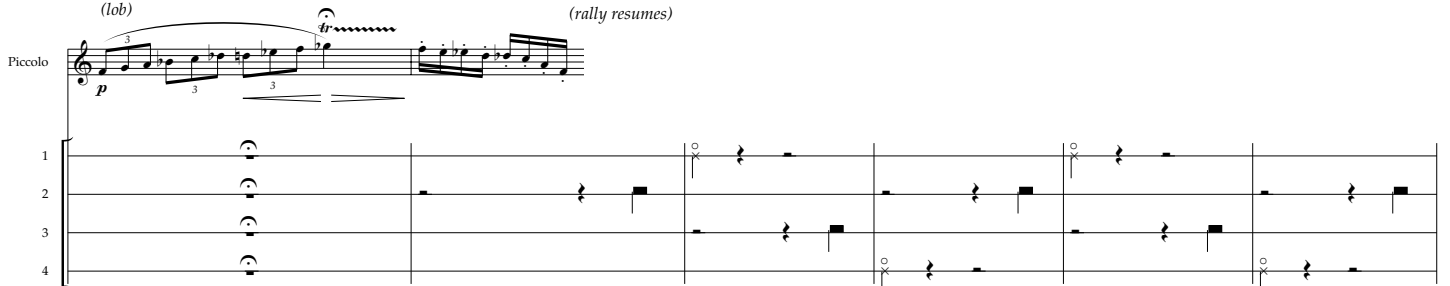
D Moderato ♩ = 96

(rally) (to the net) volleys



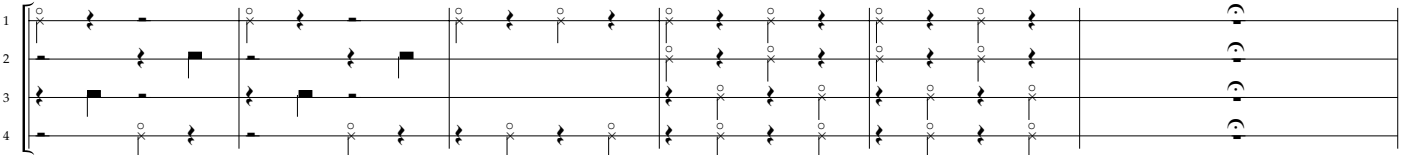
(everyone looks up)

(lob) *p* *tr* (rally resumes)



accel......

(both at net) Conductor "winds up" for



overhead smash!

♩ = 108

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section (Picc., Fl., Ob., Cl., Alto Cl., Bass Cl., Bsn.) and reed section (Alto Sax., Tenor Sax., Bari. Sax.) are in the upper staves. The brass section (Tpt., Horns, Trb., Euph., Tuba) is in the middle staves. The percussion section (Timp., Crash Cym., Suspended Cymbal) is at the bottom. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *a2* (second octave). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 108. The section is titled "Match Point".

IV. Marche Triomphante

Conducted in pompous style, with hints of tennis strokes and flourishes.

E Pompously

backhand volley

forehand volley

Picc. Fl. Ob. Cl. Alto Cl. Bass Cl. Bsn. Alto Sax. Tenor Sax. Bari. Sax.

E Pompously

Tpt. Horns Trb. Euph. Tuba Timp. Tamb. Bass Dr. Sus. Cym.

Match Point

mf

etc. ad lib.

F

This page of a musical score contains parts for the following instruments:

- Woodwinds:** Piccolo (Picc.), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Alto Clarinet (Alto Cl.), Bass Clarinet (Bass Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (Tenor Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.).
- Brass:** Trumpet (Tpt.), Horns, Trombone (Trb.), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba.
- Percussion:** Timpani (Timp.), Glockenspiel (Glock.), Snare Drum (Snare Dr.), Tom-tom (Tamb.), and Bass Drum (Bass Dr.).

The score is divided into two systems, each starting with a dynamic marking of **F** (Fortissimo). The first system includes the woodwinds and bassoon. The second system includes the brass and percussion. The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs, and is marked with *mock-heroically*. Trill ornaments are indicated by wavy lines above notes in several parts. The score concludes with a **Match Point** instruction.

This page of a musical score, numbered 12, contains parts for a wide array of instruments. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section consists of Trumpets, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Timpani, Glockenspiel, Snare Drum, and Bass Drum. The score is written in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. It features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs, and dynamic markings such as *div.* (divisi) and *tr.* (trills). The notation is arranged in a standard orchestral layout, with woodwinds on the left, brass in the middle, and percussion on the right.

G Grandly

Musical score for woodwinds and strings. The score includes parts for Piccolo (Picc.), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Alto Clarinet (Alto Cl.), Bass Clarinet (Bass Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (Tenor Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.). The woodwinds play a melodic line with various articulations such as *div.* (divisi) and *unis.* (unison). The strings provide a rhythmic accompaniment.

G Grandly

Musical score for brass and percussion. The score includes parts for Trumpet (Tpt.), Horns, Trombone (Trb.), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Timpani (Timp.), Glockenspiel (Glock.), Snare Drum (Snare Dr.), and Crash Cymbal (Crash Cym.). The brass instruments play a rhythmic pattern with triplets and accents, marked *mock-heroically*. The percussion provides a steady beat. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *unis.* (unison).

Match Point

H Lazily ♩ = 80

Musical score for woodwinds and strings, measures 1-4. The score includes parts for Piccolo (Picc.), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Alto Clarinet (Alto Cl.), Bass Clarinet (Bass Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (Tenor Sax.), and Bari. Saxophone (Bari. Sax.). The woodwinds play a melodic line with triplets and slurs, starting in measure 3. The strings play a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf* and *a2*.

H Lazily ♩ = 80

Musical score for brass and percussion, measures 1-4. The score includes parts for Trumpet (Tpt.), Horns, Trombone (Trb.), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, and Triangle (Tri.). The brass instruments play sustained chords with tremolos, starting in measure 3. The Triangle plays a rhythmic pattern. Dynamics include *mf*.

All players relax by sitting back in chair and saying "Ahhh!".

Picc. *p* Ahhh!

Fl. *p* Ahhh!

Ob. *p* Ahhh!

Cl. *sfz* Ahhh!

Alto Cl. *sfz* Ahhh!

Bass Cl. *sfz* Ahhh!

Bsn. *sfz* Ahhh!

Alto Sax. *sfz* Ahhh!

Tenor Sax. *sfz* Ahhh!

Bari. Sax. *sfz* Ahhh!

Tpt. Ahhh!

Horns Ahhh!

Trb. *mf* very lazily *p* Ahhh!

Euph. Ahhh!

Tuba Ahhh!

Timp. *p* *mf* *p* Ahhh!

very lazily

Ice cubes dropped into empty glass

Ahhh!