"Hermes" is a one-movement orchestral piece, lasting approximately 18 minutes. Originally commissioned by the "Real Filharmonia de Galicia", the orchestration is limited to 2.2.2.2, 2.2.0.0, 2 timpani and strings (10.8.7.6.3); violins are divided in three sections (6.6.6) throughout the piece. Formally, it incorporates elements of prelude and fugue, theme and variations, and sonata. It is structured in three main sections: Introduction (mm. 1-51), Fugue-central section (mm. 52-407), and Coda (mm. 408-523). The fugue subject undergoes successive variations and developmental procedures. Scherzo- and finale-character sections, as well as the recapitulation of the Introduction in mm. 372, can be analyzed from an expanded sonata-form perspective. Although tempo and meters change dramatically over time, the basic beat (in its two manifestations: 64 / 96 MM., a 2/3 equivalence) remains constant. All thematic material, both melodic and harmonic, originates from a 5-note chord (first spelled Ab-C-D#-E-G), with punctual exceptions where "quotations" (real or imaginary) are heard. The Introduction presents briefly and austerely the complete material and plan for the piece; the Fugue carries the weight of the structure, supported by two tutti’s at both ends of the section, while at the same time develops the material within a certain consistent emotional plane; the Coda, even though it uses exclusively the same material, does so in another, differentiated plane, bringing closure in a realm that transcends the former one.
HERMES
ORIGINAL MUSIC FOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

by
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Dissertation submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of the University of Maryland, College Park in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts 2004

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Central section

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Coda

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* All violins must be divided in three equal separate groups
Adagio molto  \( \frac{3}{4} \)
Molto rit... Allegro \( \frac{d}{\text{4}=\text{8}} \)

Molto rit... Allegro \( \frac{d}{\text{4}=\text{8}} \)