

Wind Ensemble

Mr. Brian Monroe: Director

MARCH FROM 1941JOHN WILLIAMS

Transcribed by Paul Lavender

The March from the movie "1941" is the most memorable part of the 1979, Steven Spielberg production starring John Belushi. As Spielberg writes: "For the motion picture 1941, I posed yet a whole different challenge to John (Williams): A World War II comedy spectacle about the imagined panic in Los Angeles after the invasion of Pearl Harbor. This larger than life, special-effects movie posed a war being fought on the beaches of Malibu and the streets of Hollywood. John composed a spirited march which when played in the studio sounded so good that I went home, grabbed my clarinet and joined the clarinet section to make sure the end result was just ragged enough. Despite my efforts, the March survived & contributed great fun to this bizarre invasion.

notes by: Steven Spielberg

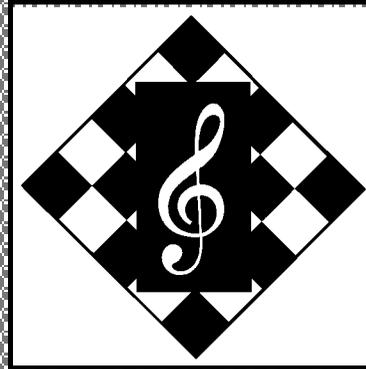
RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS MUSIC.....ALFRED REED

Alfred Reed was a 23 year old staff arranger for the 529th Army Air Corps Band when he was called upon to create what has become a masterpiece of the wind literature. It was in 1944, when optimism was running high with the successful invasion of France and Belgium by the Allied forces. A holiday band concert was planned by the city of Denver to further promote Russian-American unity with premiers of new works from both countries. With just 16 days until the concert, Reed was assigned to compose a new Russian work for the concert. Scouring the Corp's music library, Reed found an authentic 16th-century Russian Christmas Song "Carol of the Little Russian Children" to use for an introductory theme. Drawing on his investigations of Eastern Orthodox liturgical music for other thematic ideas, he completed the score of Russian Christmas Music in 11 days; copyists took another two days to prepare parts for rehearsal. The first performance was on December 12, 1944, on a nationwide broadcast. In later years, Reed made minor changes to the instrumentation to suit a large ensemble. The liturgical music of the Eastern Orthodox Church is entirely vocal, admitting no instrumental music into the services. Reed has captured the sonorities, rhythmic inflections, clarity, and flowing phrases of the human voice in his composition.

Although the work is in the form of a single movement, four distinct sections can be recognized. The opening "Carol" sets a restrained and gentle mood. The chant from the trombones and trumpets climaxes into the "Antiphonal Chant" carried by the woodwinds. The rhythm picks up for the "Village Song," which is presented in two bar phrases that rise and fall with the liturgy. The church bells herald the final "Cathedral Chorus" that builds in a steady crescendo, pausing for a soft and sonorous chorale, before continuing with the introduction of additional instruments until all of the colors and intensity of the celebration fill the hall.

RIDE!.....SAMUEL HAZO

In late April of 2002, Jack Stamp had invited me to take part in a composer's forum he had organized for his students at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Following the first day of the forum, Jack invited all of the composers to his house. Since I didn't know how to get to Jack's house from the university, he told me to follow him. So he began the fifteen minute drive with me behind them. The combination of such an invigorating day as well as my trying to follow Jack at the top speed a country road can be driven, is what wrote this piece in my head in the time it took to get from the IUP campus to the Stamp residence. RIDE was written and titled for that exact moment in my life when Jack Stamp's generosity and lead foot were as equal in their inspiration as the beautiful Indiana, PA country side blurring past my car window.



Stow - Munroe Falls High School

Instrumental Music Department

presents our :

End of Winter

Concert

with the:

**Concert Band, Symphonic
Band
& Wind Ensemble**

**Tuesday, March 9, 2004
7:30 P.M.
Stow-Munroe Falls H.S.**

Symphonic Band Brass Choir

TRUMPET TUNE & AIR.....HENRY PURCELL
Arranged by Howarth

Concert Band

Mr. Brian Monroe & Mr. Greg Newman: Director

STARK COUNTY FAIR BAND.....ROBERT FELDBUSH
Former Cuyahoga Falls High School Band Director Robert Feldbush composed this march in for the Stark County, Ohio Fair Band. It is a lively circus gallop complete with chromatic brass passages and woodwind flourishes.

VALSE LYRIQUE.....WILLIAM HIMES
As composer Bill Himes states, "Valse Lyrique" was written at the request of my friend and mentor, E. Daniel Long, a dedicated music educator, who has inspired students for forty years as director of orchestras for Slauson Middle School, Ann Arbor, Michigan. It is my hope that this piece will meet Dan's high expectations while at the same time serving as a metaphor for the beautiful melody that has been the result of his teaching career and the countless young lives he has touched along the way."

REGENESIS, SONG OF THE PLANET.....JOHN HIGGINS
Regenesis is a descriptive overture, written to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the cataclysmic eruption of Mount St. Helens in May, 1980. With the force of 500 Hiroshima's, its towering wall of destruction enveloped over 230 square miles of forest and wildlife. Sixty people were drawn into its deadly embrace.
Subtitled, "Song of The Planet," the piece reflects the ever-changing life cycles of our ecological system in which a suffocating swath of devastation can become a crucible of creation. It is organized into five continuous sections: Vistas, Warning, Cataclysm, Void and Renewal.

BEYOND THE HORIZON.....TRACY BEHRMAN
I was born and raised in Port Clinton, Ohio, on the shore of southern Lake Erie. There is nothing I enjoy more than spending time on my small powerboat fishing, skiing, and cruising to the nearby Lake Erie islands. It was during one of these boating excursion that the opening theme of *Beyond the Horizon* came to me. Speeding across the water under the hot sun with wind in my face, I looked north across the horizon and started to sing the melody. Evenings on the lake offer a wide contract of views. The slow lyrical section depicts the lake at its calmest with gorgeous orange-red sunset in the west. There is not better moment to be alive.

Notes by the composer.

"In Every successful business....there is one budget line that never gets cut. It's called 'Product Development'- and it's the key to any company's future growth. Music education is critical to the product development of this nation's most important resource: our children.
- John Sykers- President VH1

Symphonic Band

Mr. Greg Newman: Director

PERILOUS VOYAGE.....COREY J. MCBRIDE
In 1577, Elizabeth I, queen of England, secretly commissioned Sir Frances Drake to undertake an expedition against the Spanish colonies on the Pacific coast of the New World. With five ships and 166 men, Drake set sail from Plymouth, England, on December 13, 1577. After crossing the Atlantic Ocean, two of his ships had to be abandoned in the Rio de la Plata estuary of South America. In August 1578, the three remaining ships left the Atlantic Ocean and entered the strait of Magellan at the southern tip of the South American continent. Sixteen days later, they sailed into the Pacific Ocean. A series of violent storms lasting more than 50 days destroyed one ship. Another sailed back to England. Drake, blown far south, continued on, in his flagship, the Golden Hind. The lone vessel moved northward along the coast of South America, plundering several Spanish ports along the way. He eventually sails his ship over the Pacific, navigating his way around Asia and Africa, and finally returning to England after completely circumnavigating the world. Drake returned a hero to the English and was therefore knighted and hailed for his excellent work and his fearlessness on such a Perilous Voyage.

THREE DORSET SONGS.....RALPH VAUGHN WILLIAMS
Arranged by Douglas Stotter

I. Blackamore by the Stour, II. The Winter's Willow, III. Boy Johnny
The three selections in Three Dorset Songs for voice and piano were composed between 1902 and 1903. All three tunes were published in The Vocalist magazine in 1902. "Blackamore by the Stour" and "The Winter's Willow" both use text from William Barnes 1801-1886, a clerk, teacher and clergy man, and a close friend of author Thomas Hardy. The text of "Boy Johnny" comes from the work of Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894. A devout Anglican, her poetic themes turned from unrequited love to the renunciation of earthly love. Each of the songs has a folk-like quality. Indeed, The Times of London described Blackamore as the "cleverest imitation of a genuine folk song."

AT DAWN THEY SLEPT (DECEMBER 7TH, 1941).....JAY BOCOOK
"At Dawn They Slept" was composed in the Winter of 2002, for the York High School Band, South Carolina, and was premiered in April 2002, at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The work starts softly depicting the US military presence at Pearl Harbor in the days preceding December 7, 1941. The following section, the main theme is introduced and portrays the tranquility and beauty of those fall days in the late 1941. The mood changes as dawn breaks on December 7. A distant bugler sounds, and soft alarm clocks are noticed. Intermixed is the sounds of approaching planes. The 7 chimes strikes represent the first attack at 7:00 am. The battle is portrayed by the percussion, brass and woodwinds with angular, dissonant and fragmented lines builds to a climax where themes are transformed into themes of strength and resolve. The main theme then returns. softly at first, but finally building where the theme is proudly presented by the full ensemble as we honor those men and women who severed on that "day which will live in infamy."

Celebrate Music in our School's Month!

"On the 1999 SAT, music students continued to outperform their non-arts peers, scoring 61 points higher on the verbal portion and 42 points higher on the math portion of the exam."
-Demorest & Morrison, "Does Music Make You Smarter?" Music Educators Journal, Sept. 2000.