BALLAD FOR PEACE

FRANK ERICKSON

INSTRUMENTATION

- I Full Score
- 8 Flute/Piccolo
- 2 Oboe
- 4 Ist B Clarinet
- 4 2nd B Clarinet
- 4 3rd B Clarinet
- 2 E Alto Clarinet/
 - E Contrabass Clarinet
- 2 B Bass Clarinet/
 - BB Contrabass Clarinet
- 2 Bassoon
- 2 Ist E Alto Saxophone
- 2 2nd E Alto Saxophone
- 2 B Tenor Saxophone
 - El Baritone Saxophone

- 3 Ist B♭ Trumpet
- 3 2nd B♭ Trumpet
- 3 3rd B Trumpet
- 2 Ist F Horn
- I 2nd F Horn
- I 3rd F Horn
- 2 1st Trombone
- 2 2nd Trombone
- 2 3rd Trombone
- Baritone T.C.
- 2 Baritone B.C.
- 4 Tuba
- l Bells
- I Timpani
- 3 Percussion

(Snare Drum, Bass Drum,

Crash Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal)

Frank Erickson Publications



About the composer

For more than forty years, Frank Erickson has devoted his career to music education and he ranks as one of the profession's best-known and most influential composers and arrangers. During his last year in high school he composed his first concert band number. Following four years in the service during World War II he began his writing career as a jazz arranger, and as his interest in serious music grew he began studies in composition with Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco. He later entered the University of Southern California as a composition major and while a student began arranging half time shows for the USC marching band. By the time he received his masters degree from USC he had several published band numbers, the first of which was Little Suite for Band. During the 50's his career soared with the publication of such perineal favorites as Balladair, Air for Band, Fantasy for Band and Toccata for Band. He has over 500 publications including 250 original works for band and is active as a composer and guest conductor, both in the United States and abroad.

About the composition

The word "peace" has many connotations: "a state of tranquility or quiet, freedom from war and harmony among neighbors", and more personally, "freedom from disquieting thoughts and emotions". This piece was written in an attempt to express ideas such as these. The form is similar to the composer's earlier *Balladair* (AABCAA) with a modulation leading to a final extended statement of the opening melody, serving as a codetta.

Rehearsal suggestions

Although this number is basically harmonic in style, contrasting lines appearing at the same time suggest contrapuntal writing. As an example, at measure 9 there is the main melody in the 1st trumpet and alto sax, a counter-melody in high woodwinds, an inner moving line in the horn, a bass line, as well as other instruments on simpler sustained harmony parts: it is of course necessary for the conductor to be aware of all these elements.

It has been the composer's experience that a "roughness" in sound comes about when even one player in a section tongues a note under a slur too heavily. It has also been found that in numbers in this "ballad" style, another type of "roughness" occurs when sustained voices, particularly half and whole notes in the lower parts do not change together rhythmically, on the beat.

All dimuendos, crescendos and the ritard, four measures from the end, are meant to be gradual, nothing sudden! In the last two measures, the bass voice should be prominent.

Duration 2:45 by Frank Erickson Moderately Slow (J = 80) Flute Oboe Bb Clarinets El Alto Clarinet (E) Contrabass Clarinet) Bb Bass Clarinet (BBb Contrabass Clarinet) E Alto Saxophones B♭ Tenor Saxophone E Bazitone Saxophone Moderately Slow (J = 80) B♭ Trumpets **F** Horns Baritone Tuba Bells Timpani Percussion (Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Crash Cymbals,

Suspended Cymbal)



















