



Blunderbuss Battles

(Adventure on the High Seas)

RALPH FORD (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor	1 1st B $\flat$ Trumpet	2 Percussion II (Sus. Cymbal, Opt. Triangle)
1 1st Flute	1 2nd B $\flat$ Trumpet	8 1st Violin
1 2nd Flute	3 Trombone	8 2nd Violin
2 Oboe	1 Tuba	5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
1 1st B $\flat$ Clarinet	1 Mallet Percussion (Bells)	5 Viola
1 2nd B $\flat$ Clarinet	1 Timpani (C-G)	5 Cello
2 Bassoon	2 Percussion I (Large Tom, Bass Drum)	5 String Bass
1 B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet		
4 F Horn		

PROGRAM NOTES

Blunderbuss Battles is a musical depiction of the ship-to-ship (and often close-range) combat between pirates and the Royal Navy during the days of exploration and the shipping trade. A blunderbuss or short firearm (translated as "thunder stick") was one weapon of choice in 'clearing the decks' of the opposing ship as they pulled alongside one another. So, shiver me timbers and load the blunderbuss...a rich musical reward awaits all who dare embark on this high seas adventure!

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

With a tempo of 132 bpm, this piece is suitable for an introduction into the concept of $\frac{3}{4}$ time as one beat per measure (dotted half would equal 44 bpm), and may be increased slightly depending upon interpretation. This piece provides many textures, alternating between tutti, string, brass, and woodwind choirs, as well as unison section lines throughout. Additionally, there are many opportunities to study and discuss dynamic interpretations and shading. Regarding the percussion: after the initial player assignments to cover all written parts, the director is encouraged to find low toms for all remaining percussionists and assign them to the tom part on Percussion 1. Should no toms be available, perform the part on snare drums with the snare turned off throughout the entirety of the piece. If the number of players required presents a problem, please eliminate the brake drum part in Percussion 2.

AAAHR!

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob Phillips
Belwin/Pop String Editor

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CONDUCTOR SCORE

Ralph Ford (ASCAP)

Duration - 3:00

Bold (♩ = 132)

Flutes

Oboe

B♭ Clarinets

Bassoon (B♭ Bass Clarinet)

F Horn

B♭ Trumpets

Trombone

Tuba

Mallet Percussion (Bells)

Timpani (C-G)

Percussion I* (Large Tom, Bass Drum)

Percussion II (Sus. Cymbal, Opt. Triangle)

Bold (♩ = 132)

Violins

Viola (Violin III)

Cello

String Bass

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

*May use snare drum with snare off if no toms are available.
Tom part may be doubled by as many players/instr. that are available.

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9

Fls. I II

Ob.

Cls. I II

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.)

Hn.

Tpts. I II

Trb.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Vlns. I II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

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19

Fls. I *mf* *p*

Fls. II *mf* *p*

Ob. *mf* *p*

Cls. I *mf* *p*

Cls. II *mf* *p*

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.) *mf* *p*

Hn. *mf* *p*

Tpts. I *mf* *p*

Tpts. II *mf* *p*

Trb. *mf* *p*

Tuba *mf* *p*

Mlt. Perc. *mf* *p*

Timp. *mf* *p*

Perc. I *mf* *p*

Perc. II *mf* *p* *f* *Tri.* *p*

Vlns. I *mf* *p* *Lo 4*

Vlns. II *mf* *p* *4*

Vla. (Vln. III) *mf* *p* *x1*

Cello *mf* *p*

Str. Bass *mf* *p*

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35

Fls. I II

Ob.

Cls. I II

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.)

Hn.

Tpts. I II

Trb.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Vlns. I II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

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31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38

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46

Fls. I *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Fls. II *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Ob. *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Cls. I *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Cls. II *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.) *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Hn. *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Tpts. I *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Tpts. II *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Trb. *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Tuba *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Mlt. Perc. *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Timp. *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Perc. I *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Perc. II *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

B.D. *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Vlns. I *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Vlns. II *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Vla. (Vln. III) *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Cello *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

Str. Bass *f* *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53

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54 58

Fls. I *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Fls. II *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Ob. *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Cls. I *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Cls. II *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.) *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Hn. *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Tpts. I *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Tpts. II *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Trb. *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Tuba *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Mlt. Perc. *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Timp. *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Perc. I *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Perc. II *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Vlns. I *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Vlns. II *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Vla. (Vln. III) *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Cello *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

Str. Bass *fp* *f* *fp* *mf*

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Fls. I II

Ob.

Cls. I II

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.)

Hn.

Tpts. I II

Trb.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Vlns. I II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68

70 **Mysterioso** (♩ = 84)

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77

78

Fls. I *mf* *p* *accel.* *p*

Fls. II *mf* *p* *p*

Ob. *mf* *p* *p*

Cls. I *mf* *p* *Solo* *All* *p*

Cls. II *mf* *p* *p*

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.) *mf* *p* *p*

Hn. *mf* *p* *p*

Tpts. I *p*

Tpts. II *p*

Trb. *mf* *p* *p*

Tuba *mf* *p* *p*

Mlt. Perc. *p*

Timp. *p*

Perc. I *p*

Perc. II *mf* *p* *accel.* *p*

78

Vlns. I *mf* *p* *accel.* *p*

Vlns. II *mf* *p* *p*

Vla. (Vln. III) *mf* *p* *p*

Cello *mf* *p* *p*

Str. Bass *mf* *p* *p*

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101

Fls. I II

Ob.

Cls. I II

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.)

Hn.

Tpts. I II

Trb.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Vlms. I II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

106

Play

106

102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109

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Fls. I II

Ob.

Cls. I II

Bsn. (B $\flat$ B. Cl.)

Hn.

Tpts. I II

Trb.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Vlms. I II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

f *ff* *p* *f* *p* *ff*

110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117