

Alfred's DEBUT SERIES FOR YOUNG BANDS

On a Starry Night

Jason A. Spraggins

"I experience a period of frightening clarity in those moments when nature is so beautiful. I am no longer sure of myself, and the paintings appear as in a dream."

— Vincent Van Gogh

On a Starry Night is a concert piece inspired by the painting of the same title by the famed Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh. Painted in June 1889, this masterpiece depicts a predawn view from his bedroom window (with the addition of an idyllic village) at an asylum where he was being treated for symptoms of delusions, psychotic attacks, and epilepsy.

This piece opens with a delicate woodwind passage that evokes the calmness and serenity of the starry scene depicted by Van Gogh. Next, the full band enters with a lush variation of the opening melody. A contrasting section offers harmonic variety featuring a trumpet solo, suggesting the artist's self-reflection, inner-turmoil, and isolation during the painting of the iconic scene. The *Maestoso* section that follows captures the grandeur of the painting's blue swirling sky, dramatic yellow moon and stars, stately cypress branches, and the church steeple pointing toward the heavens. The piece returns to the soft opening melody, ending on an unexpected major chord, providing a sense of abiding warmth, peace, and hope as is conveyed by the distant window lights from small village below the pulsating Starry Night.

INSTRUMENTATION

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1 — Conductor Score | 2 — F Horn |
| 10 — Flute | 7 — Trombone/Baritone/
Bassoon |
| 2 — Oboe | 2 — Baritone T.C. |
| 6 — 1st B♭ Clarinet | 2 — Tuba |
| 6 — 2nd B♭ Clarinet | Percussion — 6 players: |
| 2 — B♭ Bass Clarinet | 1 — Bells |
| 2 — 1st E♭ Alto Saxophone | 2 — Percussion 1
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum) |
| 2 — 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone | 4 — Percussion 2
(Crash Cymbals/Wind
Chimes, Triangle/
Suspended Cymbal) |
| 2 — B♭ Tenor Saxophone | 1 — Timpani |
| 1 — E♭ Baritone Saxophone | |
| 4 — 1st B♭ Trumpet | |
| 4 — 2nd B♭ Trumpet | |

SUPPLEMENTAL and WORLD PARTS

available for download from
www.alfred.com/supplemental

- E♭ Alto Clarinet
- E♭ Horn
- Trombone in B♭ T.C.
- Trombone in B♭ B.C.
- Baritone in B♭ B.C.
- Tuba in B♭ T.C.
- Tuba in B♭ B.C.
- Tuba in E♭ T.C.
- Tuba in E♭ B.C.
- String Bass



On a Starry Night

FULL SCORE
Duration - 2:05

Jason A. Spraggins (ASCAP)

Tranquillo legato ♩ = 88

Flute

Oboe

B♭ Clarinets

B♭ Bass Clarinet

E♭ Alto
Saxophones

B♭ Tenor
Saxophone

E♭ Baritone
Saxophone

B♭ Trumpets

F Horn

Trombone/Baritone/
Bassoon

Tuba

Bells

Percussion 1
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

Percussion 2
(Crash Cymbals/Wind Chimes,
Triangle/Suspended Cymbal)

Timpani

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The top section includes Flute, Oboe, B♭ Clarinets (1 and 2), B♭ Bass Clarinet, E♭ Alto Saxophones (1 and 2), B♭ Tenor Saxophone, and E♭ Baritone Saxophone. The middle section includes B♭ Trumpets (1 and 2), F Horn, Trombone/Baritone/Bassoon, and Tuba. The bottom section includes Bells, Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum), Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals/Wind Chimes, Triangle/Suspended Cymbal), and Timpani. The score is in 3/4 time and includes dynamic markings like *mp*. A large red watermark 'Preview Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Tune: F, B♭, E♭
1 2 3 4 5 6

9

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cls. $\frac{1}{2}$ *a2* *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes. $\frac{1}{2}$ *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

Bar. Sax. *mp* *mf*

Tpts. $\frac{1}{2}$ *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *Tutti*

Tuba *mf*

Bells (w/hard rubber mallets) *mp* *mf*

Perc. 1 B.D. *mp* *mf* S.D.

Perc. 2

Timp. Cr. Cyms. (w/medium mallets) *mf*

7 8 9 10 11

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cls. $\frac{1}{2}$ *mp*

B. Cl. *p*

A. Saxes. $\frac{1}{2}$ *p*

T. Sax. *p*

Bar. Sax. *p*

Tpts. $\frac{1}{2}$ *a2*

Hn. *p*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *p*

Tuba *p*

Bells *p*

Perc. 1 *p* *mf*

Perc. 2 *p*

Wind Chimes *mp*

Timp. *p*

12 13 14 15 16

17

Fl.

Ob.

Cls. 1/2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

17

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

Trgl.

p < *mp*

17

18

19

20

21

25

Fl. *mf* *mp*

Ob. *mf* *mp*

Cls. 1/2 *mf* *mp*

B. Cl. *mf* *mp*

A. Saxes. 1/2 *mf* *mp* a2

T. Sax. *mf* *mp*

Bar. Sax. *mf*

Tpts. 1/2 Solo *mp* *mf*

Hn. *mf* *mp*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *mf* *mp*

Tuba *mf* *mp*

Bells *mp*

Perc. 1 *mf* Sus. Cym.

Perc. 2 *mp*

Timp. *mp*

22 23 24 25 26

Fl. *div.*

Ob.

Cls. 1/2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2 *Tutti*

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2

Timp.

27

28

29

30

31

rall. 33 **Maestoso a tempo**

Fl. *fp* *f*

Ob. *fp* *f*

Cls. 1/2 *fp* *f*

B. Cl. *fp* *f*

A. Saxes. 1/2 *fp* *f*

T. Sax. *fp* *f*

Bar. Sax. *fp* *f*

Tpts. 1/2 *fp* *f*

Hn. *fp* *f*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *fp* *f* Tbn. *a2*

Tuba *fp* *f*

Bells *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *p* *f* Sus. Cym.

Timp. *fp* *f*

32 33 34 35 36



Fl. 41

Ob. mp f

Cls. 1/2 mp f

B. Cl. mp f

A. Saxes. 1/2 mp f

T. Sax. mp f

Bar. Sax. mp f

Tpts. 1/2 mp f

Hn. mp f

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. mp f

Tuba mp f

Bells mp f

Perc. 1 f mp f

Perc. 2 p f

Timp. mp f

Fl.

Ob.

Cls. 1/2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.

42 43 44 45 46

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Tranquillo legato 49

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cls. 1/2 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes. 1/2 *mp* a2 a2 a2 a2

T. Sax. *mp*

Bar. Sax.

Tpts. 1/2

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba *mp*

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp*

Timp. *mp*

mp 47 48 49 50 51

This musical score is for a woodwind and brass ensemble. It consists of 12 staves, each representing a different instrument or section. The instruments are: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cls.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Saxes.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.), Trumpets (Tpts.), Horns (Hn.), Trombone/Baritone (Tbn./Bar./Bsn.), Tuba, Bells, Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Timpani (Timp.). The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 2/2 time signature. The music spans five measures, numbered 52 to 56 at the bottom. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano), *p* (piano), and *pp* (pianissimo). Performance instructions include *rall.* (rallentando) and *pp* (pianissimo) markings. A large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the score.