

CLUTCH

BRIAN BALMAGES

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor Score
- 8 Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 2 Bassoon
- 5 B \flat Clarinet 1
- 5 B \flat Clarinet 2
- 2 B \flat Bass Clarinet
- 4 E \flat Alto Saxophone
- 2 B \flat Tenor Saxophone
- 2 E \flat Baritone Saxophone
- 4 B \flat Trumpet 1
- 4 B \flat Trumpet 2

- 4 F Horn
- 4 Trombone
- 2 Euphonium
- 2 Baritone T.C.
- 4 Tuba
- 2 Timpani
- 2 Bells
- 4 Percussion 1
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
- 4 Percussion 2
(Crash Cymbals, Triangle,
Tambourine, Suspended Cymbal)

SUPPLEMENTAL and WORLD PARTS

Available for download from
www.alfred.com/supplemental

- E \flat Alto Clarinet
- E \flat Contra Alto Clarinet
- B \flat Contra Bass Clarinet
- E \flat Horn
- Trombone in B \flat T.C.
- Trombone in B \flat B.C.
- Euphonium in B \flat B.C.
- Tuba in B \flat T.C.
- Tuba in B \flat B.C.
- Tuba in E \flat T.C.
- Tuba in E \flat B.C.
- String Bass





THE COMPOSER

Brian Balmages is known worldwide as a composer and conductor who equally spans the worlds of orchestral, band, and chamber music. His music has been performed by groups ranging from professional symphony orchestras to elementary schools in venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Sydney Opera House, Toronto Centre for the Arts, and many more. He is a recipient of the A. Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association, won the 2020 NBA William D. Revelli Composition Contest with his work *Love and Light*, and is an elected member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. Balmages was awarded the inaugural James Madison University Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Visual and Performing Arts. In the same year, he was commissioned by his other alma mater, the University of Miami, to compose music for the inauguration of the institution's 6th president, Dr. Julio Frenk. His music was also performed as part of the 2013 Presidential Inaugural Prayer Service, which was attended by both President Obama and Vice President Biden.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys regular engagements with all-state and regional ensembles as well as university and professional groups throughout the world. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, Maryborough Music Conference (Australia), College Band Directors Conference, American School Band Directors Association National Conference, numerous state ASTA conferences, Teatro dell'Aquila (Italy), and others. Currently, he is Director of MakeMusic Publications and Digital Education for Alfred Music and MakeMusic.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

People always ask me where inspiration comes from, and I tell them that it can come from anywhere and everywhere. So when I found myself behind on my commission schedule and feeling a great deal of pressure, I decided to use that very feeling to inspire my next piece. And thus, *Clutch* was born!

This piece is quite aggressive and harmonically colorful, using the percussion section to establish a strong rhythmic pulse that compliments powerful melodic lines. The challenge with this work was to write a piece playable by students with varying levels of experience and ages. I did not want older students to feel like they were playing "watered down" music, but I also did not want younger students to feel discouraged about the difficulty. The result is a piece with a complex sound and vivid imagery, yet is surprisingly playable (but still fun for students of all ages).

Clutch was commissioned during the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA) Education Foundation Auction at the 2021 National Convention in St. Augustine, Florida. The following schools and band directors were involved in bringing this piece to life.

- Beaumont Middle School (Lexington, Kentucky) — Willow Cooper
- School for the Creative and Performing Arts (Lexington, Kentucky) — Robin Barker
- Davis Middle School (Dublin, Ohio) — Susann Blair-Ewing
- Sells Middle School (Dublin, Ohio) — Wendy Bauer Reeves
- East Union Middle School (Marshville, North Carolina) — Tracy Humphries
- Missy Dover — Retired Dublin City Schools Educator

—Brian Balmages

CLUTCH

BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

With urgency (♩ = 160)

Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

B♭ Clarinets 1 2

B♭ Bass Clarinet

E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpets 1 2

F Horn

Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Timpani (B♭, D)

Bells

Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals, Triangle, Tambourine, Suspended Cymbal)

With urgency (♩ = 160)

2 *f* 3 4



Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn.

1
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

1
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells *f*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

9

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1

Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

9

Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells

Perc. 1

Tambourine

Perc. 2



13

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls.

1

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

13

Tpts.

1

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Musical score for various instruments including Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets (1 and 2), Bass Clarinet, Saxophones (Alto, Tenor, Baritone), Trumpets (1 and 2), Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Bells, and Percussion (1 and 2). The score is in 4/4 time and features dynamics such as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). A large red watermark 'Preview Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

1
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

mp *mf* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf*

50662S 17 18 19 20

21

Fl. *mf* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *f* *mf*

Bsn.

1 *mf*

2 *mf*

B. Cl.

A. Sax *f* *mf*

T. Sax *f* *mf*

B. Sax

21

1 *f*

2 *f*

Hn. *f* *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells *f*

Perc. 1 *f* *mf*

Perc. 2 *f* dampen

27

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *f*

1 Cls. *mp*

2 Cls. *mp*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sax *f* *mp*

T. Sax *f* *mp*

B. Sax *f*

1 Tpts. *mf* *f*

2 Tpts. *mf* *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp. *f*

Bells *mp*

Perc. 1 *mp* rim

Perc. 2 *mp* Tri.

26 27 28 29 30



Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f*

1 Cls. *f*

2 Cls. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sax *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

1 Tpts. *f*

2 Tpts. *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp. *f*

Bells *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

46 *f* 47 48 49

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

1
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

mf *ff* *mf*

59

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

59

1
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2