

A PSALM OF CELEBRATION

Psalm 47 "O Clap Your Hands"

PAUL W. WHEAR

(1925-2001)

For
SYMPHONIC BAND

Instrumentation

1 Full Score	2 E♭ Alto Saxophone 1	2 Trombone 1
1 Piccolo	2 E♭ Alto Saxophone 2	2 Trombone 2
3 Flute 1	2 B♭ Tenor Saxophone	2 Trombone 3
3 Flute 2	1 E♭ Baritone Saxophone	3 Euphonium B.C.
1 Oboe 1	2 B♭ Cornet 1	2 Euphonium T.C.
1 Oboe 2	2 B♭ Cornet 2	4 Tuba
4 B♭ Clarinet 1	2 B♭ Cornet 3	1 Double Bass
4 B♭ Clarinet 2	1 B♭ Trumpet 1	1 Timpani
4 B♭ Clarinet 3	1 B♭ Trumpet 2	1 Percussion 1 (Orchestra Bells, Marimba, Chimes)
2 B♭ Bass Clarinet	1 F Horn 1	2 Percussion 2 (2 Snare Drums, Bass Drum, Field Drum, Orchestra Bells)
1 B♭ Contrabass Clarinet	1 F Horn 2	2 Percussion 3 (Suspended Cymbal, Tam-tam, Bass Drum, Chimes, Snare Drum)
1 Bassoon 1	1 F Horn 3	
1 Bassoon 2	1 F Horn 4	

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About the Composer

Paul W. Whear (1925 – 2021) was born in Auburn, Indiana. He received a B.N.S. from Marquette University, B.A. and M.M. from Depauw University, and a Ph.D. from Western Reserve University. He also studied at Boston University and the Eastman School of Music. Dr. Whear was an emeritus professor of music, resident composer at Marshall University, and conducted the Huntington Chamber Orchestra. He was on the theory-composition faculty at the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Michigan, and received numerous honors and prizes in composition, including MacDowell Colony Fellowships, National Endowment for the Arts grants, continuing ASCAP Serious Music Awards since 1968 and a Huntington-Hartford fellowship.

Dr. Whear's compositions have been performed all over the United States, in Canada, many European nations and Japan. He was a frequent guest conductor of college and professional orchestras and was a clinician with band and instrumental groups of all levels. He received numerous commissions for compositions in various media and for major works for orchestra, chorus and band.

Performance Notes

Inspired by *Psalm 47*, "*O Clap Your Hands*," this energetic piece loosely follows the structure of the written verse in its musical form. The opening statement is a call and response between the percussion and winds, building quickly from simple incantations to more sweeping melodic lines and counterpoint, evoking the opening couplet of the psalm. The middle section features ever grander textures, juxtaposed with simply stated chant figures and fanfares. A *finale* follows, beginning softly then soars to an exultant "Alleluia" shout and triumphant ending chord. It is a fantastic choice for a concert closer that is sure to bring the crowd to its feet!

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Moderately fast, forceful ♩ = 108

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. It includes parts for Flute, Piccolo, Oboe, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinet (1, 2, 3), B♭ Bass Clarinet, B♭ Contrabass Clarinet, E♭ Alto Saxophone (1, 2), B♭ Tenor Saxophone, E♭ Baritone Saxophone, B♭ Cornet (1, 2, 3), B♭ Trumpet (1, 2), F Horn (1, 2, 3, 4), Trombone (1, 2, 3), Euphonium, Tuba, Double Bass, Timpani, and Percussion (Snare Drum). The score is in 3/4 time and begins with a dynamic marking of *ff*. The percussion part includes a Snare Drum part with a 'R. S.' (Right Stick) marking and a Double Bass part. The score is marked with a large 'SAMPLE' watermark.

7 9

Fl. 1 2 *clap hands a2 ff* *8va*

Picc. *clap hands ff* *8va*

Ob. 1 2 *mf*

Bsn. 1 2

B♭ Cl. 1 *clap hands ff* *mf*

2 *mf*

3 *mf*

B. Cl. *clap hands ff*

Cb. Cl. *clap hands ff*

A. Sax. 1 2 *clap hands a2 ff* *mf*

T. Sax. *clap hands ff*

Bar. Sax. *clap hands ff*

7 8 9 10 11 12

Crt. 1 *clap hands ff*

2 3 *clap hands a2 ff*

Tpt. 1 2 *clap hands a2 ff*

Hn. 1 2 *ff*

3 4 *ff*

Tbn. 1 2 3

Euph. *clap hands ff*

Tba. *clap hands ff*

D. B. *clap hands ff*

Timp. *ff*

Perc. 1 *clap hands ff*

2 *ff* *Bass Drum solo f*

3 *clap hands ff*