## El Camino Spanish March

Ryan Meeboer

El Camino (The Road) is a Spanish march composed in the traditional style of a pasodoble. This piece is fast paced and energetic from start to finish and sounds more complicated than it seems.

The melodic content is primarily comprised of call and response figures. Following the powerful introduction, the 1st trumpets and horn introduce the first melody at measure 21. The 2nd trumpet and trombone then take over at measure 37, before the trombone and tuba finish the opening section at measure 53.

The backgrounds throughout give the impression of an offbeat feel through the use of syncopated rhythms. Be sure the rhythms are played accurately and completely in sync to keep the beat steady and moving.

The trio provides the most interesting and challenging content. At measure 103, the piece brings back the introduction, which dramatically slows down the music into measure 118. Although the tempo is to drop, the music is to remain as strong as possible. From here, the music is to slowly increase to its original tempo to end the march. Rehearse this section carefully to become familiar with the changes in tempo so the group can play completely in time from measure 111 to the closing.

Ryan Meeboer is a music educator who obtained his degree through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. As a composer, he has written and arranged many pieces for concert band, jazz band, and small ensembles. His young band piece, Last Voyage of the Queen Anne's Revenge, has been well received by performers, educators, and audiences, and his pieces are starting to be found on festival and contest lists. As a performer, he has had experience in several groups, including concert and stage bands, chamber choir, vocal jazz ensemble, acoustic duets, and the Hamilton based swing group, "The Main

Ryan began studying music at the age of seven through private guitar lessons. During his years in elementary and secondary school, he gained experience in several families of instruments. Focusing on music education and theory (including composition and orchestration), he attended McMaster University to achieve his honours degree in music. Ryan is currently a teacher for the Halton District School Board in Onario, where he continues to compose and arrange.

Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.

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