## Maiden Voyage

## Ryan Meeboer

Maiden Voyage is a song about celebration. Although the term 'maiden voyage' refers to a boat's first adventure, it can represent any first successful event.

It starts with the playing of strong chords, which is the beginning of the adventure. At measure 10, it moves into a more gentle, flowing section, with the horn playing a bright, rhythmical accompaniment for the trumpet. This is to represent the ship setting out into the open waters. Be sure this section is well balanced, as both parts play an important role.

At measure 35, after the introduction is replayed, a counter melody is introduced. Be sure this new material is heard, as it adds a new element to the piece.

The contrasting section is reached at measure 46, with the adventurer running into trouble. The piece flips moves to the minor mode and has the melody played in a call and response between the 1st trumpet and tubas. The other three parts need to keep on top of the beat here, as they play the role of a percussion section.

The piece ends with the same bright opening as the adventure comes to a successful end. Be sure that the final measures are played with lots of energy and enthusiasm, but is not overdone.



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, Law 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 Swing Connection".

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 Ontario, 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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