

EIGHTH NOTE PUBLICATIONS

Mars God of War David Marlatt

Prepare for battle! Mars, the Roman god of war, is one of the most significant characters in Roman mythology. Not only is he a warrior, but he is the father of the Roman people. The many statues found in Italy show him as a noble, strong and majestic man with a spear and helmet. In this piece these characteristics are set to music with beating war drums, strong themes and powerful unison parts.

The dramatic opening features trombone glisses. Go for it! Really exaggerate the flp cresc. to ff. This is the advancement of troops into battle. Timpani would add greatly to the sound but is not completely necessary if they are not available. Feel free to double and triple up the tom part at the opening. Experiment with multiple players here. Try someone on snare drum (with snares off) doubling the tom toms as well.

Lots of weight on those accents when the woodwinds come in at 11.

Once the fast tempo arrives at 26, it remains this speed through the rest of the piece. There will be great temptation to slow down at 62 with the whole notes. Although the character is light and quiet, don't allow players to lose tempo here.

The tambourine should come in with authority at 70 to lead the charge as the sections build to the end.

The Advanced Flute, Clarinet and Alto Saxophone parts contain technical and range demands that are far greater than what is found in grade 1.5 music. These parts allow for use in two situations:

1) to challenge players that are far ahead of the rest of the band. The clarinet part cross the break extensively and the flute and saxophone parts greatly pash the range normally found in music at this level.

2) for use in a massed band with players of different levels of experience. Perhaps a high school band playing with an elementary school group.

David Marlatt has composed pieces for concert band string orchestra, brass quintet, trumpet ensemble, piano, tuba and trumpet. His writing style is diverse and he has written for a wide range of difficulty levels from very young concert band to professional brass quintet. His jazz based trampet ensemble pieces Groovy Vamp and A Coconut Named Alex have been well received by audiences everywhere and his concert band compositions are found on many festival lists. He has also arranged over 800 pieces of repertoire from the Baroque to the Romantic eras such as Monteverdi madrigals, a large suite of music from Handel's Messiah, Largo from New World Symphony and even Mahler's First Symphony.

Mr. Marlatt is a trumpet player who obtained a music education degree from the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He was Principal Cornet in the Whitby Blass Band for 6 years and founder of the trumpet ensemble Trumpets in Style. As a performer, he has played in jazz bands, brass quintets, orchestras, concert bands, brass bands and period instrument ensembles.

lease 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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