Duration: 3:10 GRADE 3

CB12225 \$65.00

The Age of Chivalry







Instrumentation:

Piccolo / Flute -

Oboe - 2

Bb Clarinet 1 - 4

Bb Clarinet 2 - 4

Bb Clarinet 3 - 4

Bb Bass Clarinet - 1

Bassoon - 2

Eb Alto Saxophone 1 - 2

Eb Alto Saxophone 2 - 2

Bb Tenor Saxophone - 2

Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1

Bb Trumpet 1 - 2

Bb Trumpet 2 - 2

Bb Trumpet 3 - 2

F Horn 1 - 2

F Horn 1 - 2

Tombone 1 - 2

Tombone 2 - 2

Tombone 3 - 2

Baritone - 1

Baritone Treble Clef - 1

Tuba - 4

String Bass - 1

Bells - 1

Timpani - 1

Snare Drum, Bass Drum - 1

Crash Cymbals, Triangle - 2

The Age of Chivalry

Ryan Meeboer

This march was composed to reflect the bravery, nobility, and honour of the knights of the medieval times. The piece is meant to be strong from start to finish, with some short contrasting sections to allow the band to demonstrate its capabilities.

The introduction is to be played boldly, without overblowing. There are several accented notes, along with a loud dynamic. All the part play an important role in the opening measures, so everything must be balanced, while being able to control tone.

The main melody comes is at measure 17, played by the trumpets and alto saxes, with quick chords played by the rest of the band. The melody repeats at measure 33, with some counter melodies in the high winds, and a traditional march bass line.

The first contrasting section comes in at measure 49, with a simple melody played by the clarinets. As the countermelodies gradually enter, be sure that the clarinets can easily be heard, as they carry the main melody. At measure 65, the brass take over, repeating the same melody with some of the countermelodies slightly modified in the horns and baritone.

The main melody comes back at measure 81 and is played by most of the band. The low brass introduce a new countermelody, so this should be played prominently, as it is mew material. Be sure that the low brass and winds create the drive, using quarter notes, but be sure it does not rush the temporary.

The trio section, like the first contrasting section, drops most of the instruments, leaving only clarinets and saxes playing in the style of a chorale. This section is to be played gently, with caution that the tempo does not slow, as the bass line follows the rhythm of all the other playing parts. Again, as the brass enter, a traditional march bass line is played, with a counter melody played above the main trio melody.

The introduction returns to bring back the main section of the piece, so be sure the crescendo at measures 133 and 134 is played smoothly, and is able to build up dramatically. The piece carries through with its boldness and strength until the end of the piece.

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 testival 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 Beard 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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