

Behold a Ladder Set Up On the Earth

Frank McKinney (b. 1953)

Flute 1,2 - 8
Oboe - 2
Bb Clarinet 1 - 4
Bb Clarinet 2,3 - 8
Bb Bass Clarinet - 2
Bassoon - 2
Eb Alto Saxophone 1,2 - 4
Bb Tenor Saxophone - 2
Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1
Bb Trumpet 1 - 2
Bb Trumpet 2,3 - 4
F Horn 1,2 - 4
Trombone 1 - 2
Trombone 2,3 - 4
Baritone - 2
Baritone Treble Clef - 1
Tuba - 2
String Bass - 1
Timpani - 1
Chimes, Bells, Xylophone, Vibraphone - 4
Snare Drum, Bass Drum - 1
Crash Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle - 2

EIGHTH NOTE PUBLICATIONS

Behold a Ladder Set Up On the Earth

Frank McKinney

Genesis 28:12: “*And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.*”

This composition touches upon both the thoughtful meditation and the emotional response to the lyrics of the African American slave spiritual “We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder.”

A variation of the well-known theme is stated in the opening Adagio trumpet solo and then repeated several times throughout the piece. A more upbeat Allegro variation then enters before the familiar tune is finally introduced calmly by the bassoon. Using the given rhythmic divisions, emphasize the pulses during the mixed meter phrases from measure 30 to 41. The ensemble must work to balance to the melodic lines throughout. There are abundant opportunities for both sensitive and robust musical moments.

During the call and response climax in the organ-like Religioso section, maintain rhythmic clarity in the tied patterns with the use of slight separation. (Notice the change in patterns in measure 103). The upper woodwinds should be allowed to present the top register at full volume. In the closing moments, the low winds “climb Jacob's Ladder” one last time!

*Behold A Ladder Set Up On The Earth was commissioned by Randy Wilbur,
bassoonist with the Tri-State Community Band of North Georgia.*

After graduating from the Florida State University School of Music in 1976, Frank McKinney taught middle and high school band for thirty eight years in Florida and Georgia. Frank is now retired from teaching but is an active musician, clinician and composer, playing with the Georgia Wind Symphony, TriState Community Band of North Georgia, Young Harris College Band and his jazz combo, The Swing Set. Frank is a member of the National Association of Music Educators, the National Band Association, the Florida Music Educators Association, the Florida Bandmasters Association and the Georgia Music Educators Association. He and his wife, Cara, live near Blairsville, Georgia, where they enjoy the outdoors with their cat, Howdy.

*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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BEHOLD A LADDER SET UP ON THE EARTH

Adagio $\text{♩} = 72$

2

3

4

5

6

Frank McKinney

Flute 1,2

Oboe

B \flat Clarinet 1

B \flat Clarinet 2,3

B \flat Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

E \flat Alto Saxophone 1,2

B \flat Tenor Saxophone

E \flat Baritone Saxophone

B \flat Trumpet 1

B \flat Trumpet 2,3

F Horn 1,2

Trombone 1

Trombone 2,3

Baritone

Tuba

Timpani
A \flat -B \flat -C-E \flat

Chimes
Bells

Xylophone

Vibraphone

Snare Drum

Bass Drum

Crash Cymbals

Suspended Cymbal

Triangle

Horn cues
1 player

1 player

1 player

1 player

soft felt mallets

Chimes

Sus. Cym. soft mallets

mp

mf

f

p

mp

mf

pp

p

pp

mf

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn 1,2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2,3

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Chimes

Bells

Xylo

Vibes

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

S.C.

Tri

f *mp* *p* *pp* *legato* *a2* *1 player* *Bells*

3+3+2

3+3+2

FL

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn 1,2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2,3

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Chimes

Bells

Xylo

Vibes

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

S.C.

Tri

Cr. Cym.

fp *f* *mf* *f*

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

3+2+3

in 4

FL

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn 1,2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2,3

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Chimes
Bells
Xylo
Vibes

S.D.
B.D.

C.C.
S.C.
Tri

f

mf

mp

p

Horn cues

1.

As to F

rit.

Allegro ♩ = 120

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn 1,2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2,3

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Chimes

Bells

Xylo

Vibes

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

S.C.

Tri

mp

f

mp

f

mp

f

mp

f

pp

p

legato

tutti

rit.

mp

f

pp

p

molto rit.

Religioso ♩ = 56

FL

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn 1,2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2,3

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Chimes

Bells

Xylo

Vibes

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

S.C.

Tri

mf

f

ff

mp

p

hard felt mallets

Cr. Cym.

This musical score is for the piece "Behold a Ladder Set Up on the Earth" and spans pages 100, 101, 102, and 103. The score is arranged for a large symphony orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flute (Fl):** Features a melodic line with a complex, rapid sixteenth-note passage starting on page 102.
- Oboe (Ob):** Plays a steady, rhythmic accompaniment.
- Clarinets (Cl 1, Cl 2,3):** Clarinet 1 has a melodic line, while Clarinets 2 and 3 play a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Bass Clarinet (B Cl):** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Bassoon (Bsn):** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Saxophones (A Sax, T Sax, B Sax):** All saxophones play a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Trumpets (Tpt 1, Tpt 2,3):** Trumpet 1 has a melodic line, while Trumpets 2 and 3 play a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Horns (Hn 1,2):** Horns 1 and 2 play a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Trumpets (Trbn 1, Trbn 2,3):** Trumpets 1 and 2 play a rhythmic accompaniment, while Trumpet 3 has a melodic line.
- Baritone (Bari):** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Tuba:** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Timpani (Timp):** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Chimes, Bells, Xylophone, Vibraphone:** These percussion instruments are mostly silent, with some specific markings like "ve" and "div.".
- Snare Drum (S.D.) and Bass Drum (B.D.):** Play a complex, rhythmic pattern.
- Cymbals (C.C.) and Triangle (S.C., Tri):** Provide specific rhythmic accents.

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics, articulation marks (e.g., "a2", "div."), and performance instructions. A large "PREVIEW" watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

This musical score is for the piece "Behold a Ladder Set Up on the Earth" and spans three pages (104, 105, and 106). The score is arranged for a large symphony orchestra and includes the following instruments and parts:

- Flute (Fl):** Features a complex, rapid sixteenth-note pattern with many slurs.
- Oboe (Ob):** Plays a melodic line with some rests.
- Clarinets (Cl 1, Cl 2,3):** Clarinet 1 has a similar rapid sixteenth-note pattern to the flute. Clarinets 2 and 3 play block chords.
- Bass Clarinet (B Cl):** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Bassoon (Bsn):** Plays a melodic line with some rests.
- Saxophones (A Sax, T Sax, B Sax):** Each saxophone part has a distinct melodic line.
- Trumpets (Tpt 1, Tpt 2,3):** Trumpet 1 has a melodic line, while 2 and 3 play block chords.
- Horns (Hn 1,2):** Horns 1 and 2 play block chords.
- Trombones (Trbn 1, Trbn 2,3):** Trombone 1 has a melodic line, while 2 and 3 play block chords.
- Baritone (Bari):** Plays a melodic line.
- Tuba:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Timpani (Timp):** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Percussion (S.D., B.D., C.C., S.C., Tri):** Includes snare drum (S.D.), bass drum (B.D.), cymbals (C.C.), suspended cymbals (S.C.), and triangle (Tri).
- Chimes, Bells, Xylophone, Vibes:** These instruments are listed but have no notation on this page.

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Allegro ♩ = 126
3+3+2

108

109

110

111

3+3+2

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn 1,2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2,3

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Chimes

Bells

Xylo

Vibes

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

S.C.

Tri

122

123

124

125

126

3+3+2

3+3+2

FL

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2,3

B Cl

Bsn

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2,3

Hn 1,2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2,3

Bari

Tuba

Timp

Chimes
Bells
Xylo
Vibes

S.D.
B.D.

C.C.
S.C.
Tri

