## Exultation

## Richard Byrd

Exultation is an adaptation of an earlier work by the composer entitled Euphoric Dance, which was written for brass quintet (BQ10337). This energetic composition mirrors the joyous dance-like character of Euphoric Dance and includes an interpolated middle section that builds to a climatic and glorious original hymn-like chorale before closing with a spirited triumphant coda. The combination of mixed meter, modal writing, agile fingering, and various timbre changes generated through different trumpets and muse changes provides not only a challenge for the trumpet performers, but creates a work that is fun to perform and enjoyable to hear. Exultation is a composition that is perfect for both competition and engaging concert programs.

Although the chorale section indicates a change to flugelhorns, trumpets will work effectively if flugelhorns are not available. Trumpet players are encouraged to employ mutes (both straight and cup) that match timbres as close as possible. A strong principal player can showcase their dexterrty by performing the closing of the piece on piccolo trumpet (optional), which will undoubtedly add excitement and a brilliant finishing sound to the jubilant finale of *Exultation*!



Dr. Richard Byrd recently joined the music faculty at Eastern Kentucky University as Associate Professor of Theory and Composition after having taught for fourteen years at the University of the Cumberlands. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in trumpet performance at DePauw University. Byrd earned his Master's and Ph.D. degrees in music theory from the University of Kentucky.

As a trumpet performer, Byrd's classical experiences include performing with the Indianapolis Symphony, West Virginia, and Lexington Philharmonic Orchestras. During his tenure with the Lexington Brass Band he was a featured soloist during the band's England tour in 2000. Byrd has performed with several prominent jazz artists including Allen Vizzutti, Maynard Ferguson, Byron Stripling. Louie Bellson, Bob Mintzer, Victor Wooten, and the Manhattan Transfer, and in shows with Aretha Franklin, Robert Goulet, Rosemary Clooney, Lou Rawls, Carol Channing, and the Ringling Brothers Circus. His lead trumpet abilities with the DiMartino Osland Jazz Orchestra are showcased on their CDs entitled *Quotient* and *Off the Charts*, and with The Kentucky Jazz Repertory Orchestra on their recent CD release entitled *Flying Home*. Byrd has also recorded his own solo CD entitled *Portrait of a Trumpet*.

Byrd has been an artist-in-residence with the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts since 1989, served as Chair for the Instrumental Music discipline, and Dean of Faculty. Byrd has written several articles for publication in the International Trumpet Guild Journal, the Kentucky Music Teacher Journal, and Bluegrass Music News. He can be contacted at rich.byrd@eku.edu.

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