

# SPARKS

## Brian Balmages

### Instrumentation

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1 - Conductor's Full Score | 2 - Baritone/<br>Euphonium  |
| 4 - Flute 1                | 2 - Baritone T.C.   |
| 4 - Flute 2                | 4 - Tuba  |
| 2 - Oboe                   | 2 - Mallet Percussion 1<br>Chimes<br>Bells                        |
| 2 - Bassoon                | 2 - Mallet Percussion 2<br>Bells<br>Marimba                       |
| 5 - B♭ Clarinet 1          | 1 - Mallet Percussion 3<br>Vibraphone                             |
| 5 - B♭ Clarinet 2          | 1 - Timpani   |
| 2 - B♭ Bass Clarinet       | 2 - Percussion 1<br>Snare Drum<br>Bass Drum                       |
| 2 - E♭ Alto Saxophone 1    | 3 - Percussion 2<br>Triangle<br>Crash Cymbals<br>Suspended Cymbal |
| 2 - E♭ Alto Saxophone 2    |   |
| 2 - B♭ Tenor Saxophone     |   |
| 2 - E♭ Baritone Saxophone  |   |
| 4 - B♭ Trumpet 1           |   |
| 4 - B♭ Trumpet 2           |   |
| 4 - F Horn                 |   |
| 2 - Trombone 1             |   |
| 2 - Trombone 2             |   |

FJH is now using a high-speed sorting system for parts.  
As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.





## The Composer

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an active composer, conductor, producer, and performer. He received his bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and his master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. Mr. Balmages's works for symphonic band, orchestra, and brass have been performed throughout the world, including College Band Directors National and Regional Conferences, the Midwest Clinic, the International Tuba/Euphonium Conference, the International Trombone Festival, and the International Trumpet Guild Conference. His active schedule of commissions has included groups ranging from elementary schools to professional ensembles, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Miami Symphony Orchestra, the University of Miami Wind Ensemble, Dominion Brass, and others. He has also enjoyed world premieres in prestigious venues including Carnegie Hall.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys engagements with numerous honor bands, university groups, and professional ensembles throughout the country. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, College Band Directors Regional Conference, Mid-Atlantic Wind Conductors Conference, the Atlantic Classical Orchestra Brass Ensemble, and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore. He has also served as an adjunct professor of instrumental conducting and Director of the Symphonic Band at Towson University in Maryland.

Currently, Mr. Balmages is the Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company Inc. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He resides in Baltimore with his wife, Lisa, and their son, Jacob.

## About the Music

*Sparks* is a work depicting how incredible things happen with just a small spark. A spectacular fire can be started with a simple spark, or a spark of the imagination can lead to a magnificent idea. These sparks manifest themselves in many ways, but invariably we all experience some type of spark in our lives.

The work changes character several times as it explores various aspects of its title. However, despite its multifaceted form, it also seeks to show the seamlessness of these ideas, indicating the presence of a universal spark. The piece is essentially a metaphor that attempts to reveal the true power of even the smallest of actions or events. It reminds us that we are all capable of making a difference, no matter how insignificant we think we are.

The piece was commissioned by the Carl Sandburg Middle School Bands in Alexandria, Virginia. Directors Charlie Burts and Joe LaBrie asked that it be dedicated to the school principal, Donna Pasteur, in honor of her retirement. Throughout her tenure, she was an incredible supporter of the arts. It only seemed fitting to commission a work in her honor.

# SPARKS

BRIAN BALMAGES  
(ASCAP)

**Allegro brillante ( $\downarrow = 152$ )**

Flutes 1, 2  
Oboe  
Bassoon  
  
B♭ Clarinets 1, 2  
B♭ Bass Clarinet  
  
E♭ Alto Saxophones 1, 2  
B♭ Tenor Saxophone  
E♭ Baritone Saxophone

**Allegro brillante ( $\downarrow = 152$ )**

B♭ Trumpets 1, 2  
F Horn  
Trombones 1, 2  
Baritone/Euphonium  
Tuba

Mallet Percussion 1 (Chimes, Bells)  
Mallet Percussion 2 (Bells, Marimba)  
Mallet Percussion 3 (Vibraphone)  
Timpani  
Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)  
Percussion 2 (Triangle, Crash Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal)

2 3 4 5

Copyright © 2007 The FJH Music Company Inc.  
International Copyright Secured. Made in U.S.A. All Rights Reserved.

**WARNING!** This arrangement is protected by copyright law. Copying or reproducing it by any method without the publisher's written permission is an infringement of copyright law. Anyone who reproduces copyrighted materials is subject to substantial penalties for each infringement.

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1  
Cls. 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

6 7 8 9 10

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1

Cls. 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1

Tpts. 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

13

div.

a2

a2

mf

mf

11 12 13 14 15

*Preview Use Requires Purchase*

B1327

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
1  
2  
f  
f  
Cls.  
1  
2  
f  
f  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1  
2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
1  
2  
Tpts.  
f  
div.  
f  
Hn.  
Tbns. 1  
2  
Bar./Euph.  
Tuba  
Mlt. Perc. 1  
Mlt. Perc. 2  
Mlt. Perc. 3  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20



29

Fls. 1 2 Ob. Bsn. Cls. 1 2 B. Cl. A. Saxes. 1 2 T. Sax. B. Sax. Tpts. 1 2 Hn. Tbns. 1 2 Bar./ Euph. Tuba Mlt. Perc. 1 Mlt. Perc. 2 Mlt. Perc. 3 Timp. Perc. 1 Perc. 2

**Legal Use Requires Purchase**

29

Ch.

**Review Only**

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
1 Cls.  
2 Cls.  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1  
2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
1 Tpts.  
2  
div.  
div.  
Hn.  
Tbns. 1  
2  
Bar./  
Euph.  
Tuba  
Mit. Perc. 1  
Mit. Perc. 2  
Mit. Perc. 3  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

31 32 33 34 35

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
1  
2  
Clz.  
1  
2  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1  
2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
1  
2  
Tpts.  
Hn.  
Tbns. 1  
2  
Bar./  
Euph.  
Tuba  
Mit. Perc. 1  
Mit. Perc. 2  
Mit. Perc. 3  
Tim.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

37  
p  
1.  
v  
p  
v  
1 player  
mp  
1 player  
st. mute  
mp  
Marimba  
mp  
mp  
choke

36 37 mp 38 39 40

Fls. 1, 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
Cls. 1, 2  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1, 2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
Tpts. 1, 2  
Hn.  
Tbns. 1, 2  
Bar./Euph.  
Tuba  
Mlt. Perc. 1  
Mlt. Perc. 2  
Mlt. Perc. 3  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

41 42 43 44 45

50 tutti  
mp

mp

mp

mp

p

tutti  
mp

mp

p

section (open)

50

mp

mp

a2

mp

p

mp

Mit. Perc. 1

Mit. Perc. 2

Mit. Perc. 3

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

46 47 48 49 50

Musical score for a 22-piece band, page 13. The score includes parts for Fls. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn., Cls. 1 & 2, B. Cl., A. Saxes. 1 & 2, T. Sax., B. Sax., Tpts. 1 & 2, Hn., Tbns. 1 & 2, Bar./Euph., Tuba, Mlt. Perc. 1, Mlt. Perc. 2, Mlt. Perc. 3, Timp., Perc. 1, and Perc. 2. The music spans four measures (51-54). Measure 51: Fls. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. Measure 52: Ob. and Bsn. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 53: Cls. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. B. Cl. and A. Saxes. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. T. Sax. and B. Sax. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 54: Tpts. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. Hn. and Tbns. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. Bar./Euph. and Tuba play eighth-note patterns. Mlt. Perc. 1 plays eighth-note patterns. Mlt. Perc. 2 and Mlt. Perc. 3 play eighth-note patterns. Timp. plays eighth-note patterns. Perc. 1 and Perc. 2 play eighth-note patterns. Dynamics include *mf*, *mp*, and *tutti*. The score is heavily annotated with red text: 'Preview Use Requires Purchase' diagonally across the page, and 'Legal Use' and 'Purchase' separately.

Musical score for a 20-piece orchestra, page 14. The score includes parts for Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1 & 2, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, Trumpet 1 & 2, Horn, Trombone 1 & 2, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba, Mallet Percussion 1, Mallet Percussion 2, Mallet Percussion 3, Timpani, Percussion 1, and Percussion 2. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system spans measures 55 to 56. The second system begins at measure 56 and includes a dynamic instruction 'Sus. Cym. p' at the start of measure 57. The score is written in common time, with various clefs (G, F, C) and key signatures (B-flat major). Measures 55-56 show a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth-note and sixteenth-note figures. Measures 56-57 feature sustained notes and sustained chords.

59

Fls. 1 2 *f*

Ob.

Bsn. 1 2 *f*

Cls. 1 2 *f*

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1 2 *f*

T. Sax.

B. Sax. *f*

59

Tpts. 1 2 *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbns. 1 2 *f*

Bar./Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Mlt. Perc. 1 *f*

Mlt. Perc. 2 *f*

Mlt. Perc. 3

Tim. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

59 *f* 60 61 62 *mp* *f*

*Review Requires Purchase Only*

*Legal Use*

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

64 65 66 67 68

*mf*

Fls. 1 2 *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Cls. 1 *ff*

2 *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Saxes. 1 2 *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

B. Sax. *ff*

Tpts. 1 2 *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Tbns. 1 2 *ff*

Bar./Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Mlt. Perc. 1 *ff*

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Tim. *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff f*

Perc. 2 *ff*

69 *f* 70 71 72 *mp* *f*

Review Use Requires Purchase

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Hn.  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Bar./Euph.  
Tuba  
Mit. Perc. 1  
Mit. Perc. 2  
Mit. Perc. 3  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

74      75      76      77      78

79

a2

Fls. 1 2 *mp*

Ob.

Bsn.

1 2 *p*

Cls. 1 2 *p*

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

79

Hn. *mp*

Tpts. 1 2

Hn. *mp*

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Tri.

79 80 81 *mp* 83

Preview Use Requires Purchase



Fls. 1  
Fls. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1  
Cls. 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

**poco rit.** 95 **A tempo**

**Fls.** 1 2  
**Ob.**  
**Bsn.**  
**Cls.** 1 2  
**B. Cl.**  
**A. Saxes.** 1 2  
**T. Sax.**  
**B. Sax.**

**Tpts.** 1 2  
**Hn.**  
**Tbns.** 1 2  
**Bar./Euph.**  
**Tuba**

**Mlt. Perc. 1**  
**Mlt. Perc. 2**  
**Mlt. Perc. 3**  
**Tim.**  
**Perc. 1**  
**Perc. 2**

Review Use Only
Purchase

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2 *mf*

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1  
Cl. 2 *no breath!* 3 *mp* Tbn. 1  
B. Cl. *mp* Tbn. 2

A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2 *no breath!* 3 *mp* a2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2 *no breath!* 3

Hn.

Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2 *no breath!* 3 *mp*

Bar./Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Mlt. Perc. 1 *mf*

Mlt. Perc. 2 *mf*

Mlt. Perc. 3

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *m*

99 *mf* 100 101 102 103

poco rit.

107 A tempo

Musical score for measures 104-108. The score includes parts for Fls. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn., Cls. 1 & 2, B. Cl., A. Saxes. 1 & 2, T. Sax., and B. Sax. Measure 104: Fls. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn. play eighth-note patterns. Cls. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. B. Cl. and A. Saxes. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. T. Sax. and B. Sax. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 105: Fls. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn. play eighth-note patterns. Cls. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. B. Cl. and A. Saxes. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. T. Sax. and B. Sax. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 106: Fls. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn. play eighth-note patterns. Cls. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. B. Cl. and A. Saxes. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. T. Sax. and B. Sax. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 107: Fls. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn. play eighth-note patterns. Cls. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. B. Cl. and A. Saxes. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. T. Sax. and B. Sax. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 108: Fls. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn. play eighth-note patterns. Cls. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. B. Cl. and A. Saxes. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. T. Sax. and B. Sax. play eighth-note patterns.

poco rit.

107 A tempo

Musical score for measures 104-108. The score includes parts for Tpts. 1 & 2, Hn., Tbns. 1 & 2, Bar./Euph., Tuba, Mlt. Perc. 1, Mlt. Perc. 2, Mlt. Perc. 3, Timp., Perc. 1, and Perc. 2. Measures 104-106: Tpts. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. Hn. plays eighth-note patterns. Tbns. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. Bar./Euph. and Tuba play eighth-note patterns. Measures 107-108: Tpts. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. Hn. plays eighth-note patterns. Tbns. 1 & 2 play eighth-note patterns. Bar./Euph. and Tuba play eighth-note patterns. Mlt. Perc. 1, Mlt. Perc. 2, Mlt. Perc. 3, Timp., Perc. 1, and Perc. 2 play eighth-note patterns.

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Clrs. 1  
Clrs. 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

109      110      111      112      113

A musical score page for a 20-piece orchestra. The page is covered with large, diagonal red text that reads "Preview Requires Purchase". The score includes parts for Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpet 1 & 2, Horn, Trombone 1 & 2, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba, Mallet Percussion 1, Mallet Percussion 2, Mallet Percussion 3, Timpani, Percussion 1, and Percussion 2. The music consists of five staves of five measures each, starting at measure 114 and ending at measure 118. Various dynamics like *mf* and *cresc.* are indicated throughout the score.

121

Fls. 1  
2

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
2

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1  
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1  
2

Hn.

Tbns. 1  
2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

*Preview Use Requires Purchase*

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
1 Cls.  
2 Cls.  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
1 Tpts.  
2 Tpts.  
Hn.  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Bar./Euph.  
Tuba  
Mlt. Perc. 1  
Mlt. Perc. 2  
Mlt. Perc. 3  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

124 *p*      *f*      126      127

129

a2

Fls. 1  
2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl.

2

B. Cl.

A. Saxos. 1  
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1  
2

Hn.

Tbns. 1  
2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc. 1

Mlt. Perc. 2

Mlt. Perc. 3

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

128

130

131

*Preview Use Requires Purchase*

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
1  
2  
Cl.  
1  
2  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1  
2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
1  
2  
Tpts.  
Hn.  
1  
2  
Tbns. 1  
2  
Bar./  
Euph.  
Tuba  
Mit. Perc. 1  
Mit. Perc. 2  
Mit. Perc. 3  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

132 133 134 135

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Ob.  
Bsn.  
Clss.  
B. Cl.  
A. Saxes. 1  
A. Saxes. 2  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
div.  
Hn.  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Bar./Euph.  
Tuba  
Mlt. Perc. 1  
Mlt. Perc. 2  
Mlt. Perc. 3  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

136 137 138 139 140