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SPIT-FIRE

William Owens

Instrumentation

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 - Conductor's Full Score | 2 - Baritone/
Euphonium |
| 4 - Flute 1 | 2 - Baritone T.C. |
| 4 - Flute 2 | 4 - Tuba |
| 2 - Oboe | 1 - Timpani |
| 2 - Bassoon | 2 - Mallet Percussion
Chimes
Bells |
| 5 - B \flat Clarinet 1 | 3 - Percussion 1
Snare Drum
Bass Drum |
| 5 - B \flat Clarinet 2 | 3 - Percussion 2
Tom-toms
Metal Trash Can
Triangle |
| 2 - B \flat Bass Clarinet | 4 - Percussion 3
Bar Chimes
Suspended Cymbal
Crash Cymbals
Vibraslap |
| 2 - E \flat Alto Saxophone 1 | |
| 2 - E \flat Alto Saxophone 2 | |
| 2 - B \flat Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - E \flat Baritone Saxophone | |
| 4 - B \flat Trumpet 1 | |
| 4 - B \flat 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.

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The Composer

William Owens (b. 1963) is a native of Gary, Indiana and a 1985 graduate of VanderCook College of Music in Chicago. A seasoned music educator, Mr. Owens is active as a composer, conductor and clinician throughout the United States and Canada. Mr. Owens has written nearly 200 commissioned and published works for concert band and string orchestra. His music has been programmed at prestigious venues such as the Midwest Clinic and appears on required music lists both nationally and abroad. Principal commissions include those from the California Band Directors Association, the Chicago Public Schools Bureau of Cultural Arts, the South Plains College Dept. of Fine Arts and the Texas University Interscholastic League. He is a consistent winner of the ASCAP award and a two-time recipient of the Forrest L. Buchtel Citation for Excellence in Composition. Professional memberships include ASCAP, the American Composers Forum and the Texas MEA. William resides in Fort Worth, TX with his wife, Georgia.

Program Notes

The 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group were a group of African-American pilots who fought during World War II. As the unit officially began at Alabama's Tuskegee Institute, it would later adopt the historic moniker of the Tuskegee Airmen. Through unmatched bravery and uncompromising commitment to duty, this elite fighting force would become the standard for aerial combat units worldwide.

During World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen were subjected to intense racial discrimination as were all African-Americans at the hand of the infamous Jim Crow laws. Despite these hardships, these valorous men trained and flew with great distinction. Between 1941 and 1946, the 332nd would amass many significant accomplishments and accolades. When the pilots painted the tails of their aircraft red, they adopted the nickname "Red-Tails" along with the motto "Spit-Fire."

The work begins slowly and hymn-like with military drum cadence in the background. Tempo and intensity gradually builds into an imposing melodic statement as the 332nd girds up for combat. The haunting lyrical "flying" section with an array of tonal colors soon leads to the powerful "battle" scene. Bombing and machine gun fire are replicated by sporadic percussion and boisterous brass. In the midst of the chaos, a subtle melodic statement can be heard (perhaps a plea for equality and justice by the heroes on behalf of an oppressed people). After the battle, the music then roars to a victorious finish.

Rehearsal Suggestions

The "urgently" section at measure 21 will yield optimum intensity and excitement if played at the top end of the suggested metronome marking. The "flying" section at measure 49 should be very smooth, but not lacking in intensity. The trombone glissandos at measure 57 replicate diving by the aircraft. Please consider using a harder mallet with the timpani for the "battle" section at measure 65.

SPIT-FIRE

WILLIAM OWENS
(ASCAP)

With integrity (♩ = 80-84)

3

Flutes 1 2

Oboe

Bassoon *mf* *mp* Euph.

B♭ Clarinets 1 2

B♭ Bass Clarinet *mf* *mp* Hn.

E♭ Alto Saxophones 1 2 *mp*

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *mf* *mp* Bsn.

B♭ Trumpets 1 2 *mf* Solo *mp* Tpt. 1 Solo

F Horn *mp*

Trombones 1 2

Baritone/Euphonium *mf* *mp*

Tuba *mf* *mp*

Timpani (G, D) *mf* *mp*

Mallet Percussion (Chimes, Bells) *mf* Chimes Bells

Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum) *mf* S.D. B.D. *mp*

Percussion 2 (Tom-toms, Metal Trash Can, Triangle)

Percussion 3 (Bar Chimes, Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals, Vibraslap) Bar Chimes *mf*

mf 3 4

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7

This page contains a musical score for a large ensemble. The instruments listed on the left are:

- Fls. (Flutes) 1 and 2
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Bsn. (Bassoon)
- Cls. (Clarinets) 1 and 2
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- A. Saxes (Alto Saxophones) 1 and 2
- T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone)
- B. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone)
- Tpts. (Trumpets) 1 and 2
- Hn. (Horn)
- Tbps. (Trombones) 1 and 2
- Bar./Euph. (Baritone/Euphonium)
- Tuba
- Timp. (Timpani)
- Mlt. Perc. (Multiple Percussion)
- Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3 (Percussion)

The score includes various dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano), *play*, *tutti*, *div.* (divisi), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). A large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the page. A box with the number "7" is located at the top center and another "7" is above the Tpts. 2 staff.

5

6

mp

8

9

21 Urgently! (♩ = 144-152)

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Bsn.

mp

mp

Tuba

mp

21 Urgently! (♩ = 144-152)

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./ Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mf

mp

mf

mp

39

Fls. 1 2 *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cls. 1 2 *mf*

B. Cl. *f* *mf*

A. Saxes 1 2 *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

39

Tpts. 1 2

Hn. *mf*

Tbps. 1 2 *mf*

Bar./Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Timp. *f* *mf*

Mit. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

36 37 38 *mf* 40

49

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

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

46 *f* 47 48 49 *mf* 50

mp *f* *mp* *mf* *(mp)*

snare off

Tri.

Tom-toms

Vibraslap

This musical score page, numbered 13, features a large red watermark reading "Preview Only" and "Legal Use Requires Purchase". The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts and staves:

- Fls.:** Flute 1 and 2
- Ob.:** Oboe
- Bsn.:** Bassoon
- Cl.:** Clarinet 1 and 2
- B. Cl.:** Bass Clarinet
- A. Saxes:** Alto Saxophone 1 and 2
- T. Sax.:** Tenor Saxophone
- B. Sax.:** Baritone Saxophone
- Tpts.:** Trumpets 1 and 2
- Hn.:** Horn
- Tbns.:** Trombones 1 and 2
- Bar./Euph.:** Baritone/Euphonium
- Tuba:** Tuba
- Timp.:** Timpani
- Mlt. Perc.:** Multiple Percussion
- Perc. 1:** Percussion 1
- Perc. 2:** Percussion 2
- Perc. 3:** Percussion 3

The score spans measures 51 to 55. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is indicated at the bottom of the page. The percussion parts include complex rhythmic patterns, with Perc. 2 featuring a prominent eighth-note accompaniment.

57

Fls. 1 2 *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cls. 1 2 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes 1 2 *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

57

Tpts. 1 2 *mf* Tpt. 1

Hn. *mp* *mf*

Tbns. 1 2 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

Bar./ Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mp* *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Mlt. Perc. *f* Chimes

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

56 57 58 59

Preview Only
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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

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

play *mf*

60 61 62 63 64

73

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

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Metal Trash Can play

f

70

71

72

73

f

77

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

77

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./ Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

74 75 76 77 *f*

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mit. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

78 79 80 81

83

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

83

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./ Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mf *f* *f* *f*

Cr. Cym.

82 *f* 84 85

89

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

89

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./ Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

86 *f* 88 89

