

STORMCHASING

William Owens

- Instrumentation -

- 1 Conductor's Full Score
- 8 Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 2 Bassoon
- 10 Bb Clarinet
- 2 Bb Bass Clarinet
- 4 El M. C. 1
- 4 E♭ Alto Saxophone
- 2 Bb Tenor Saxophone
- 2 E♭ Baritone Saxophone
- 8 Bb Trumpet
- 4 F Horn
- 4 Trombone
- 2 Baritone / Euphonium

- 2 Baritone T.C.
- 4 Tuba
- 2 Bells
- 2 Percussion 1 Snare Drum Bass Drum
- 2 Advanced Percussion 1 Snare Drum Bass Drum
- 2 Percussion 2 Triangle Crash Cymbals
- 2 Percussion 3

Rainstick (or Bar Chimes) Hand Crank (or Whistle) Siren

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. His career as a music educator spans three decades and he is very active as a composer, clinician and conductor throughout the United States and Canada. His compositions for young ensembles display a practical, erudite approach which has firmly established him as a leader in the field.

Since 1993, William has written over 150 commissioned and published works for concert band and string orchestra. His music has been performed at Carnegie Hall, 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 Iowa Bandmasters Association, the South Plains College (TX) Department of Fine Arts and the Texas University Interscholastic League. Several of his compositions are recorded and analyzed in educational text by the GIA series *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*.

William is a 1985 graduate of VanderCook College of Music in Chicago. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and grants for composition including the Forrest L. Buchtel Citation, presented to him by his alma mater. Professional memberships include the American Society of Composers Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the American Composers Forum (ACF), the Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) and the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA). In July 2014, Mr. Owens was honored as the "Feature Composer" by the Texas Bandmasters Association.

In January 2014, William formally retired from duty as a band director in Texas after 29 years of service. He presently serves as Instrumental Editorial Assistant for The FJH Music Company (FL) and Conductor/Music Director of the Mansfield (TX) Wind Symphony. In his spare time, he enjoys sightseeing and reading, particularly motivational material and presidential biographies. He is a Chevrolet Corvette owner/enthusiast and holds membership with the Corvette Club of Texas, a non-profit charitable organization in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. William resides in Fort Worth, TX with his wife and best friend, Georgia.

Program Notes

While the hobby of tracking severe weather can be a riveting adventure, it is also filled with great peril. Tornados pose a particularly dangerous pursuit as they are quite violent and often occur with little warning. Taking root in the 1950s, sophisticated storm chasing is today widely popular among those intrigued with the extreme forces of nature. Exuding both mystery and power, *Stormchasing* offers us a musical glimpse of a most unusual quest. Beginning slowly, drops of rain can actually be heard underneath whispering woodwinds and an ominous low voice melody. The theme gradually builds and the chase is on by way of a strong melodic trumpet statement. Becoming briefly and eerily calm (as storms may do), the music slowly brings us into the heart of the chase before driving to the sudden and abrupt conclusion.

Rehearsal Suggestions

To achieve the true character of the music, attention to style markings and dynamic contrast is most essential. The soft finger-snapping at the beginning replicates raindrops, therefore entrances and endings should be somewhat sporadic rather than in strict rhythm. In lieu of a hand crank siren, please consider downloading one of many available siren apps which can be amplified for optimum effect.



STORMCHASING

WILLIAM OWENS (ASCAP)





piece at www.fjhmusic.com

















Musical Jump Start

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

