

ACROSS THE GREAT PLAINS

THE PONY EXPRESS (1860–1861)

William Owens

Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score	2 - Trombone 1
1 - Piccolo	2 - Trombone 2
4 - Flute 1	2 - Trombone 3
4 - Flute 2	2 - Baritone/Euphonium
2 - Oboe	2 - Baritone T.C.
2 - Bassoon	4 - Tuba
4 - B♭ Clarinet 1	1 - Timpani
4 - B♭ Clarinet 2	2 - Mallet Percussion
4 - B♭ Clarinet 3	Xylophone
2 - B♭ Bass Clarinet	Bells
2 - E♭ Alto Saxophone 1	2 - Percussion 1
2 - E♭ Alto Saxophone 2	Snare Drum
2 - B♭ Tenor Saxophone	Bass Drum
2 - E♭ Baritone Saxophone	2 - Percussion 2
3 - B♭ Trumpet 1	Tambourine
3 - B♭ Trumpet 2	Bar Chimes
3 - B♭ Trumpet 3	4 - Percussion 3
2 - F Horn 1	Crash Cymbals
2 - F Horn 2	Suspended Cymbal
	Triangle
	Gong

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

T H E
F · J · H
M U S I C
C O M P A N Y
I N C.
Frank J. Hackinson

2525 Davie Road, Suite 360
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33317-7424
www.fjhmusic.com

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 ASCAPPlus 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 mail must go through." This simple four-word creed was the unswerving mission statement of one of America's most legendary (though short-lived) institutions; the Pony Express! Spurred by the ever-looming threat of Civil War, the Pony Express was born from the need for faster communication with the West. The service began in April 1860 when riders left simultaneously from St. Joseph, MO and Sacramento, CA. Consisting of horse riders carrying saddlebags of mail across a 2000-mile trail, any given trip averaged ten days and covered approximately 250 miles in a 24-hour period. In time, the service would eventually grow to over 100 stations, 90 riders, and roughly 500 horses. The Express rider's journey was fraught with hazards and danger, as job advertisements would read: *"WANTED: Young, skinny, wiry fellows not over eighteen. Must be expert riders, willing to risk death daily. Orphans preferred..."* The service proved itself astonishingly efficient during its time, losing only one delivery. With the advent of the Pacific Telegraph in October 1862, the tenacious Pony Express would be rendered obsolete after a glorious 19-month run.

This intrepid work revolves around a quickly recognizable rhythmic motif, depicting the wild and harrowing ride of the brash and daring young rider. From the beginning, strong brass statements and vibrant woodwind runs are heard throughout as the music drives with unbridled vigor. The mood soon settles into a melodious waltz section, illustrating the tranquility of night. While the music has calmed, the brisk tempo endures as the ride MUST continue! After a soft melodic flute motif, the initial boisterous theme is once again at the forefront as the intensity of the ride careens to a brilliant finish; MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

Rehearsal Suggestions

Please be encouraged to play toward the high end of the suggested metronome marking to truly capture the rugged, carefree character of the music. While the mood of the waltz section is gentle in comparison to the opening statements, the tempo must remain consistent and the music must have a light, nimble quality. While the percussion section is a key factor in maintaining the drive, care must be taken to not overshadow.

ACROSS THE GREAT PLAINS

The Pony Express (1860–1861)

WILLIAM OWENS
(ASCAP)

Rugged and carefree! (♩ = 160-168)

Flutes (Piccolo) 1 2 +Picc. *f* *fp*

Oboe *f* *fp*

Bassoon *f* *fp*

B♭ Clarinets 1 2 3 *f* *fp*

B♭ Bass Clarinet *f* *fp*

E♭ Alto Saxophones 1 2 *f* *fp*

B♭ Tenor Saxophone *f* *fp*

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *f* *fp*

B♭ Trumpets 1 2 3 *f* *fp*

F Horns 1 2 *f* *fp*

Trombones 1 2 3 *f* *fp*

Baritone / Euphonium *f* *fp*

Tuba *f* *fp*

Timpani (F, B♭, E♭) *f* *fp*

Mallet Percussion (Xylophone, Bells) *f* *fp*

Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum) *f* *fp*

Percussion 2 (Tambourine, Bar Chimes) *f* *fp*

Percussion 3 (Crash Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle, Gong) *f* *fp*

Xylophone *f* *fp*

Tamb. *f* *fp*

Tri. *f* *fp*

2

3

4

Copyright © 2017 The FJH Music Company Inc. (ASCAP).

International Copyright Secured. Made in U.S.A. All Rights Reserved.

WARNING! The music, text, design, and graphics in this publication are protected by copyright law.
Any duplication is an infringement of U.S. copyright law.



Hear and download this
piece at www.fjhmusic.com

B1691

5

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

mp

Ob.

mp

Bsn.

f

1

Cl. 2

mp

3

B. Cl.

f

A. Sax. 1

2

f

mp

T. Sax.

f

B. Sax.

f

5

1

Tpts. 2

3

Hns. 1

2

f

1

2

Tbns.

f

3

Bar. / Euph.

f

Tuba

f

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

mp

Perc. 1

mp

Perc. 2

mp

Perc. 3

Cr. Cym.

mp

5 6 7 8

13

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

13

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

13 14 15 16

B1691

24

28

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

29 30 31 32

Cr. Cym.

35

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

33 34 35 36 *f*

Legal Use Requires Purchase

40

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

37 38 39 40

Legal Use Requires Purchase

46 Twilight (same tempo)

Fls. 1 (Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn. *mp*

Cls. 1 2 3 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp* Tuba *mp*

A. Saxes. 1 2 *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

46 Twilight (same tempo)

Tpts. 1 2 3

Hns. 1 2 *mp*

Tbns. 1 2 3 *mp* Euph *mp* Euph

Bar. / Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Timp. *mp* Bells

Mlt. Perc. *mp*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 Bar Chimes *mp*

Perc. 3 *mf*

46 47 48 49 50 51 52

54

-Picc.

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Clas.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

54

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mf

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

mp

mp

53 54 55 56 57 58 59

62

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2
3

B. Cl. *play* *mp*

A. Saxes. 1
2 *mf*

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

62

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp*

Perc. 3

60 61 62 *mp* 63 64 65 66

B1691

78

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mf

mf

mp

mp

mp

play

mp

78

mp

play

mp

mp

Tamb.

mp

74 75 76 *p* 77 78 *mf* 79 80

B1691

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Gong

88 89 90 91 92 93 *p*

94

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

94

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mf

p

pp

p

pp

p

pp

p

pp

p

pp

mf

pp

mf

mf

pp

B. Ch.

94 *mf* 95 96 97 98

99 Rugged and carefree!

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

99 Rugged and carefree!

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xylophone

Cr. Cym.

Legal Use Requires Purchase

[illegible]

111

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

1
Cls.
2
3

B. Cl.

1
A. Saxes.
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

111

1
Tpts.
2
3

1
Hns.
2

mf

1
Tbns.
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

111 112 113 114

B1691

115

Fls. 1
(Picc.) 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Clas. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

A. Saxes. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

115

Tpts. 1
2
3

Hns. 1
2

Tbns. 1
2
3

Bar. /
Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

115 116 117 118

B1691

119

B1691