I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD

on a poem by William Wordsworth

Timothy Loest

Instrumentation

- 1 Conductor's Full Score
- 8 Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 2 Bassoon
- 5 Bb Clarinet 1
- 5 Bb Clarinet 2
- 2 Bb Bass Clarinet
- 4 El Alto Saxophone
- 2 Bb Tenor Saxophone
- 2 Eb Baritone Saxophone
- 4 Bb Trumpet 1
- 4 Bb Trumpet 2
- 4 F Hom
- 4 Trombone

- 2 Baritone / Euphonium
- 2 Baritone T.C
- 4 Tuba
- 1 String Bass
- 2 Bells Chimes
- 3 Percussion 1 Triangle Snare Drum Bass Drum
- 3 Percussion 2 Suspended Cymbal Ride Cymbal Crash Cymbals

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

Timothy Loest is a name in music synonymous with creativity, versatility, and accessibility. His compositions and arrangements for young band are performed worldwide and his pedagogical methods and conducting appearances continue to impact performers and audiences at the state and national levels.

In 2017, his work *Cloud Gate (Reflections of a City)* was performed for more than 5,000 spectators at Chicago's Millennium Park. That same year, he received the Illinois Grade School Music Association's highest honor – the Cloyd Myers Memorial Award for Excellence in Music Education.

Mr. Loest had his first work published in 1995 and today he is an exclusive writer for The FJH Music Company Inc. He co-authored Measures of Success[®]: A Comprehensive Musicianship Band Method, and is lead author of "The Beyond Series," which includes Warm-ups and Beyond, Rhythms and Beyond, and Chorales and Beyond.

Mr. Loest received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Illinois State University and his Master of Music Education degree from Northwestern University. He holds membership in NAfME, ASCAP, Illinois MEA, the Illinois Grade School Music Association, and Christian Educators Association International. He is band director at F.E. Peacock Middle School in Itasca, Illinois, and resides in Wheaton, Illinois with his wife Cindy and their two sons.

About the Music

Clouds, considered by many to be poetic wonders of the sky, come in infinite shapes and sizes. Some are giant white puffs that billow toward the sun. Others are long thin wisps that stretch across the horizon. While their formation, type, and behavior can be explained scientifically, clouds possess an ethereal beauty that defies logic, teases the imagination, inspires dreams, and touches the soul.

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud musically depicts the transcendent beauty and grandeur of clouds as they hover across the sky on a summer day. Having taught music for over thirty years in a room with no windows, I was recently reacquainted with clouds while driving from Chicago to Fort Lauderdale. The trip reminded me that profound beauty was all around me. And to find it, I just needed to keep my head to the sky. As so aptly stated in the book of Job:

Look up at the heavens and see; gaze at the clouds so high above you.

–Job 35:5 (NIV)

Upon returning home, I set out to compose a piece of music that embraced the unpretentious, yet otherworldly beauty of these floating phenomena in the sky. And to gain inspiration, I kept my office window blinds open. I also read and reread William Wordsworth's poem I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud. The final stanza of his poem influenced the development of my composition. Like that final stanza, I decided to begin the work with gentle reflection, and then end it with bold joy. That wonderful stanza is as follows:

For oft, when on my couch I lie In vacant or in pensive mood, They flash upon the inward eye Which is the bliss of solitude; And then my heart with pleasure fills, And dances with the daffodils.

To uncover the work's essence, focus on flowing phrases, changing dynamics, and controlled blend and balance. This work utilizes lush harmonies that rely on correct notes and adherence to correct pitch. Therefore, always use correct fingerings and listen deeply, matching pitch, tone quality and volume to those around you.

As clouds inspire dreams, so does music. Enjoy the beauty and dream BIG!

I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD



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piece at www.fjhmusic.com

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