THE CRYSTAL FOUNTAIN

Brian Balmages

Instrumentation

- 1 Full Score
- 4 Flute 1
- 4 Flute 2
- 2 Oboe
- 2 Bassoon
- 5 Bb Clarinet 1
- 5 Bb Clarinet 2
- 2 Bb Bass Clarinet
- 1 Eb Contra Alto Clarinet
- 1 Bb Contrabass Clarinet
- 2 Eb Alto Saxophone 1
- 2 Eb Alto Saxophone 2
- 2 Bb Tenor Saxophone
- 2 Eb Baritone Saxophone
- 4 Bb Trumpet 1
- 4 Bh Trumpet 2
- 4 F Horr

- 2 Trombone 1
- 2 Trombone 2
- 2 Baritone / Euphonium
- 2 Baritone T.C
- 4 Tuba
- 1 String Bass
- 1 Timpani
- 1 Bells
- 1 Vibraphone
- 1 Chimes
- 4 Percussion

Crash Cymbals

Wind Chimes

Rainstick

Triangle

Suspended Cymbal

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

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer and conductor. His music has been performed throughout the world with commissions ranging from elementary schools to professional orchestras. World premieres include prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. His music was also performed as part of the 2013 Presidential Inaugural Prayer Service, which was attended by both President Obama and Vice President Biden. He is a recipient of the prestigious A. Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association, won the 2020 NBA William D. Revelli Composition Contest with his work *Love and Light*, and in 2016 was awarded the James Madison University Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Visual and Performing Arts (the first year the award was given). In the same year, he was commissioned by his other alma mater, the University of Miami, to compose music for the inauguration of the institution's 6th president, Dr. Julio Frenk.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys regular engagements with all-state and region bands and orchestras, as well as university and professional ensembles throughout the world. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, College Band Directors Conference, American School Band Directors Association National Conference and others. Additional conducting appearances have included the Kennedy Center and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall as well as engagements in Australia, Canada and Italy. Currently, he is Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company and Assistant Director of Bands and Orchestras at Towson University.

About the Music

The title of this work is taken from the text to the hymn *Guide Me*, *O Thou Great Redeemer*, which is also the thematic material used as inspiration for the piece. The piece is dedicated to Leigh Boyce, who was heavily involved in her church. This was one of her favorite hymns prior to her untimely passing.

The piece begins very delicately, relying on fragments of the hymn. These melodic ideas move in and out of various time changes as entrances overlap, creating the sense of timelessness. An original melody is presented in solo flute, and soon it is joined by the melodic fragments from the opening of the piece. A delicate exchange between the two continues as the music develops, until the climax of the work where both the original theme and the complete melody of *Guide Me*, *O Thou Great Redeemer* are presented simultaneously (without any alterations, signifying that the two were meant to be together the entire time). As the music fades, the listener is left with a sense of peace and closure.



- Brian Balmages

Leigh Boyce

January 15, 1966 - August 11, 2020

Leigh Boyce grew up in Michigan, where she learned to love music at an early age. After graduation from Northwest High School in Jackson, Michigan, she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1988, majoring in clarinet. She received her Master's Degree in Music Performance from Arkansas State University. Ms. Boyce began her teaching career in Fayette County, Tennessee. In 1991 she became Band Director at Trenton Rosenwald Middle School and Assistant Band Director at Peabody High School in Trenton, Tennessee, where she remained until her untimely death on August 11, 2020. In addition to the duties of her job, Ms. Boyce served as Secretary for the West Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association for many years. In 2002, Ms. Boyce became Choir Director for First United Methodist Church in Trenton, Tennessee, where she was much beloved for her musical talents and sweet spirit.

Ms. Boyce was an accomplished clarinetist and her skills were in high demand. She performed with the Martin Community Band, Jackson Area Community Band, and played for musical productions with Nite Lite Theatre of Gibson County. She taught private lessons to aspiring clarinetists from schools all over the West Tennessee area.

Ms. Boyce was admired for the outstanding accomplishments of her students and flawless performances of her bands. She was a devoted educator and passionate advocate for music education. Through her love of music and tireless dedication, Leigh Boyce left a lasting impact on the lives of her students, her colleagues, and the community of Trenton in which she lived and was loved.

- biography by Leah Jean Rollins

Consortium Members

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Cleveland High School – Jim Burton and Alex Denton

Colonial Middle School - Alfredo Maruri

Dyersburg Middle School - Logan Hayes

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Peabody High School – James Young

Scotts Hill High School – Jordan Ashby

South Gibson County High School – Johnathan Johnson

Starkville High School – Shawn Sullivan

Trenton Rosenwald Middle School – Emma Lang

Union University - Michael Mann

Flutes

Oboe

Bassoon

Bb Clarinets

E♭ Alto Saxophones

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpets

F Horn

Trombones

Baritone / Euphonium

Tuba

Timpani

Bells

Vibraphone

Chimes

Percussion (Crash Cymbals, Wind Chimes, Rainstick, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal)



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(gently, in the background)



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