



THE FIRE'S FURY

Brian Balmages

Instrumentation

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 - Full Score | 2 - Baritone T.C. |
| 8 - Flute | 4 - Tuba |
| 2 - Oboe | 1 - Electric Bass |
| 2 - Bassoon | 1 - Timpani |
| 10 - B \flat Clarinet | 2 - Bells |
| 2 - E \flat Alto Clarinet | 4 - Percussion 1 |
| 2 - B \flat Bass Clarinet | Low Tom |
| 4 - E \flat Alto Saxophone | Bass Drum |
| 2 - B \flat Tenor Saxophone | 3 - Percussion 2 |
| 2 - E \flat Baritone Saxophone | Crash Cymbals |
| 8 - B \flat Trumpet | China Cymbal |
| 4 - F Horn | Suspended Cymbal |
| 4 - Trombone | 1 - Percussion 3 |
| 2 - Baritone /
Euphonium | Anvil or Brake Drum |

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 conveys everything about the music. The idea of something being so powerful that it is hard to control, seemingly unpredictable, aggressive, fast moving, and unstable. All those thoughts are explored throughout as powerful percussion elements combine with dissonant intervals in the winds. My goal with this piece was to create something that sounded complex and had a natural amount of melodic and rhythmic development; however, I wanted the piece to be approachable by beginning bands.

Toward the end of the work, students are asked to crumple a plastic grocery bag. This is a wonderful way to reuse them, and the resulting sound really approaches the sound of an actual fire. Directors will need to work on the balance of the bags (and how quickly / aggressively students begin to crumple them – it should be a subtle effect at the beginning – not a shocking immediate sound).

The piece was commissioned by the F.E. Peacock Middle School Bands (Itasca, Illinois) under the direction of Timothy Loest. The commission was generously sponsored by the JCS Fund, Young People's Music Initiative.

The Fire's Fury correlates with *Measures of Success®*, Book 1, Opus 3.

- Brian Balmages

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

A. Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn. Bar. / Euph. Bsn.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Cl. play

mf

f

mp

f

11

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

A. Cl. *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

11

Tpt. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. Bar. / Euph. Bsn. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Bells *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf* China Cym. w/ stick

Perc. 3 *mf*

11 12 13 14 15 16

19

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl.

A. Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax.

19

Tpt. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. Bar. / Euph. Bsn.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells *mf* hard plastic mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp* Sus. Cym. (mallets) *mf*

Perc. 3

This musical score page, numbered 8, contains parts for various instruments. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Alto Clarinet (A. Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), and Bass Saxophone (B. Sax.). The brass section includes Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon (Tbn. Bar./Euph. Bsn.), and Tuba. The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), Bells, and three Percussion parts (Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3). The score is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). A large, diagonal red watermark reading "Preview Only" and "Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid across the entire page. The page number "8" is located in the top left corner. The instrument labels are positioned to the left of their respective staves. The score spans measures 29 to 34, with measure numbers printed at the bottom of the page.

35

div.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

A. Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

35

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn. Bar. / Euph. Bsn.

Tuba

Timp.

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

brass mallets

China Cym. (stick)

Sus. Cym.

f

mp

f

mp

35 36 37 38 39 40

43

loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!

Fl. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

Ob. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

Cl. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

A. Cl. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

B. Cl. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

A. Sax. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

T. Sax. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

B. Sax. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

43

loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!

Tpt. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

Hn. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

Tbn. Bar. / Euph. Bsn. *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

Tuba *loudly crumple plastic grocery bag!*

Timp. *mf* *f*

Bells

Perc. 1 *mf* *f*

Perc. 2 *f* *mf* *f* China Cym.

Perc. 3

47

Fl. *play*

Ob. *play*

Cl. *play*

A. Cl. *play*

B. Cl. *play*

A. Sax. *play*

T. Sax. *play*

B. Sax. *play*

47

Tpt. *play*

Hn. *play*

Tbn. Bar. / Euph. Bsn. *play*

Tuba *play*

Timp. *pedal from highest to lowest pitch!*

Bells

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 dampen

Perc. 3 *mp* *f* *Sus. Cym.*