

RWS CONCERT BAND SERIES

CONDUCTOR SCORE

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# Escape Velocity

Mark J. Connor

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CONCERT BAND SERIES

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# Escape Velocity

Mark J. Connor

## INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1	Trombone 1	3
Flute	10	Trombone 2	3
Oboe	2	Euphonium	2
B♭ Clarinet 1	6	Euphonium T.C.	2
B♭ Clarinet 2	6	Tuba	4
B♭ Bass Clarinet	2	Mallet Percussion 1: Bells	1
Bassoon	2	Mallet Percussion 2: Xylophone	1
E♭ Alto Saxophone	6	Timpani	1
B♭ Tenor Saxophone	2	Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum	3
E♭ Baritone Saxophone	1	Percussion 2: Tom-toms (2)	1
B♭ Trumpet 1	5	Percussion 3: Hi-Hat, Suspended Cymbal	2
B♭ Trumpet 1	5		
F Horn	4		

## PROGRAM NOTE

*"We choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard; because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one we intend to win, and the others, too."*

— John F. Kennedy, September 12, 1962

*Escape Velocity* is defined as the minimum speed needed for an object to leave the gravitational pull of a large body. For the astronauts of Apollo 11, that speed was achieved sitting atop a massive Saturn V rocket that would power them not only out of the Earth's gravitational pull, but all the way to the moon. On that historic day in July of 1969, they would become the first humans to walk on the lunar surface.

This work for concert band evokes the power and energy of that launch and celebrates the 50th anniversary of "one giant leap for mankind". The piece is dedicated to Ron Sikes and the instrumental music students of the Jefferson R-7 School District in Missouri.

## NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

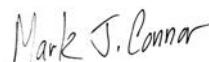
Be sure the staccato quarter notes throughout are not too short. They should not be clipped and should be approximately the length of an eighth note. Let the final note of the work echo to the moon!

Maintain a steady, almost machine-like tempo throughout with a slight *ritard* at measure 74. The only pauses in the piece are measures 77 and 123. The second pitch in measure 77 should be cued.

Encourage your students to carefully observe the dynamics and to maintain the dynamic level as layers are added to the texture.

One potentially exciting performance suggestion is to download copyright free audio of the 1969 Apollo 11 mission from the NASA website ([www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)) and play it prior to, or during the performance. Feel free to repeat any measures between 1-4 or 78-83 as background to the audio.

Best of luck to you and your ensemble. I hope you enjoy this exciting work!



## ABOUT THE COMPOSER



**Mark J. Connor** (b. 1971) is a composer, educator, and conductor with works for concert band published by RWS Music and Grand Mesa Music. He has been commissioned to write music for numerous organizations including Composers and Schools in Concert and the Commission Project.

Mark has taught classes at all levels ranging from junior high school through postgraduate. He is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor of Music at Webster University in St. Louis. From 1997 to 2001 Mark was the director of bands and teacher at Palma High School in Salinas, California.

# ESCAPE VELOCITY

Fast  $\text{♩} = 112\text{--}120$

7

Musical score page 7 featuring woodwind instruments. The score includes parts for Flute, Oboe, B♭ Clarinet 1, B♭ Clarinet 2, B♭ Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, E♭ Alto Saxophone, B♭ Tenor Saxophone, and E♭ Baritone Saxophone. The music is in 6/8 time, key signature is one flat. Measures 1 through 6 show mostly rests. Measure 7 begins with dynamic *f*. Measure 8 ends with dynamic *f*.

Fast  $\text{♩} = 112\text{--}120$

7

Musical score page 7 featuring brass and percussion instruments. The score includes parts for B♭ Trumpet 1, B♭ Trumpet 2, F Horn, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Euphonium, Tuba, Mallet Percussion 1 (Bells), Mallet Percussion 2 (Xylophone), Timpani (G, C, D), Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum), Percussion 2 (Tom-toms (2)), and Percussion 3 (Hi-Hat, Suspended Cymbal). The music is in 6/8 time, key signature is one flat. Measures 1 through 6 show mostly rests. Measures 7 and 8 feature rhythmic patterns on the timpani and various percussion instruments like snare drum, bass drum, toms, and cymbals.

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Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

15

15

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

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Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

23

23

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

- 5 -

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

*fp* *p* High tom *mp* Hi-hat *mf*

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**33**

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

**41**

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

**41** Mute

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

- 8 -

**49**

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

**49**

Open

Open

- 9 -

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

Sus. Cym.

- 10 -

**65**

Fl. ff

Ob. ff

Cl. 1 ff

Cl. 2 ff

B. Cl. ff

Bsn. ff

A. Sax. ff *div.*

T. Sax. ff

B. Sax. ff

**65**

Trpt. 1 ff

Trpt. 2 ff

F Hn. ff

Tbn. 1 ff

Tbn. 2 ff

Euph. ff

Tuba ff

Mlt. 1 ff

Mlt. 2 ff

Timp. ff

Perc. 1 ff

Perc. 2 ff

Perc. 3 ff

78 Tempo I

A musical score for orchestra and percussion. The score consists of two systems of music, each starting at measure 78.

**Measure 78 (Tempo I):**

- Flute (Fl.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Clarinet 2 (Cl. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Alto Saxophone (A. Sax):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Bass Saxophone (B. Sax):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Trumpet 1 (Trpt. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Trumpet 2 (Trpt. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- French Horn (F Hn.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tuba (Tbn. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tuba (Tbn. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tuba (Tuba):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Mellophone 1 (Mlt. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Mellophone 2 (Mlt. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Timpani (Timp.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1):** Playing sixteenth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Percussion 3 (Perc. 3):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*. Includes a dynamic marking for *Hi-hat* at the end of the measure.

**Measure 79 (Tempo I):**

- Flute (Fl.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Clarinet 2 (Cl. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Alto Saxophone (A. Sax):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Bass Saxophone (B. Sax):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Trumpet 1 (Trpt. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Trumpet 2 (Trpt. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- French Horn (F Hn.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tuba (Tbn. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tuba (Tbn. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Tuba (Tuba):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Mellophone 1 (Mlt. 1):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Mellophone 2 (Mlt. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Timpani (Timp.):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1):** Playing sixteenth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*.
- Percussion 3 (Perc. 3):** Playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *p*. Includes a dynamic marking for *Hi-hat* at the end of the measure.

**Performance Instructions:**

- rit.**: Ritardando (slowing down).
- p**: Pianissimo (soft dynamic).
- f**: Fortissimo (very loud dynamic).
- mp**: Mezzo-forte (medium dynamic).
- mf**: Mezzo-forte (medium dynamic).
- Hi-hat**: A dynamic marking for the percussive effect produced by the hi-hat cymbals.

**Page Number:** - 12 -

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87

92

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

92

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

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100

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

100

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111

**112**

Fl. sub. **p**

Ob. sub. **p**

Cl. 1 sub. **p**

Cl. 2 sub. **p**

B. Cl. sub. **p**

Bsn. sub. **p**

A. Sax sub. **p**

T. Sax sub. **p**

B. Sax sub. **p**

**116**

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff div.

ff

ff

ff

**112**

Trpt. 1 sub. **p**

Trpt. 2 sub. **p**

F Hn. sub. **p**

Tbn. 1 sub. **p**

Tbn. 2 sub. **p**

Euph. sub. **p**

Tuba sub. **p**

Mlt. 1 sub. **p**

Mlt. 2 sub. **p**

Timp. sub. **p**

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Sus. Cym. **p**

Perc. 3

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. 1

Mlt. 2

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

p

f

mf

s

p

f

mf

f

p

f

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