

**CONDUCTOR SCORE**Catalog No: RWS-2023-01

# Christmas Spectacle

Arranged by Robert W. Smith



RUSIC COMPANY

### **RWS BEGINNING BAND SERIES**

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#### INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score1	F Horn4
Flute	
Oboe	
	Euphonium T.C
B <sup>b</sup> Bass Clarinet2	
Bassoon2	
E <sup>J</sup> Alto Saxophone8	
B <sup>J</sup> Tenor Saxophone	
E <sup>J</sup> , Baritone Saxophone2	
R Trumpet 10	Percussion 3: Sleigh Bells

#### **PROGRAM NOTE**

According to the dictionary, a "spectacle" is a visually striking performance or display. The plural use of the word also refers to eyeglasses with pieces passing over or around the ears for holding them in place. Our *Christmas Spectacle* is all of the above; a true musical spectacle for our concert band featuring very special effects. We hope you enjoy this holiday treat for the ears and eyes!

#### **NOTES TO CONDUCTOR**

This arrangement was written as a musical and visual production for your holiday concert. The "spectacle" begins with the full ensemble putting on holiday eyeglasses. I suggest you ask each student to join the creative team by procuring or making a set of holiday eyeglasses that represents their individual personality. In addition, ask the band to decorate their music stand with battery-powered lights that can be turned on and off by a switch. Another option is the creation of power strip network on the floor of the stage allowing each stand to be plugged in for a power source. In most venue situations, the use of stand lights is a common occurrence.

Following the initial donning of the eyeglasses, the arrangement begins with the stand lights illuminating from the flutes and clarinets as they present the first melodic statement. The turning on and off the stand lights is notated with the "o" and "+" over a rhythmic slash on the prescribed beat. The lighting effects are designed to highlight melodic lines and sections throughout the band. In addition, the full ensemble lighting effects create a larger spectacle reminiscent of a full holiday lighting show.

Beginning at measure 35, the percussion section is featured while the wind sections work together as a lighting ensemble. Please ensure the timing of the lighting effects are precise and together.

In the two bars before 56, the keyboard percussion and sleigh bells are directed to take off their eyeglasses in preparation for the feature at 56. The remainder of the band takes off and secures their eyeglasses in the first two bars of 56 and then prepares for the final music stand lighting effect at the end. At this point, I would suggest working with the stage manager to have the full stage lights go off on beat three of the final bar leaving the stage in total darkness on the final note.

I hope this arrangement and production will engage your developing musicians and serve as a creative experience for all. I'm sure your students will have ideas to enhance the effects throughout. At the appropriate point in the rehearsal sequence, I would suggest leading a discussion allowing them to join the creative team to design a *Christmas Spectacle* that will be unique to your program and community. I wish you and the entire band a wonderful performance. Happy Holidays!

### **ABOUT THE ARRANGER**



**Robert W. Smith** (b. 1958) is one of the most popular and prolific composers in America today. He has over 600 publications in print with the majority composed and arranged through his long association with Warner Bros. Publications and the Belwin catalog.

Mr. Smith's credits include many compositions and productions in all areas of the music field. His original works for winds and percussion have been programmed by countless military, university, high school, and middle school bands throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, South America and Asia. His Symphony #1 (The Divine Comedy), Symphony #2 (The Odyssey), Symphony #3 (Don Quixote), Inchon and Africa: Ceremony, Song and Ritual have received worldwide critical acclaim. His educational compositions such as The Tempest, Encanto, and The Great

Locomotive Chase have become standards for developing bands throughout the world,

Mr. Smith's music has received extensive airplay on major network television as well as inclusion in multiple motion pictures. From professional ensembles such as the United States Navy Band, United States Air Force Band, Boston Pops and the Atlanta Symphony to school bands and orchestras throughout the world, his music speaks to audiences in any concert setting. As a conductor, clinician and keynote speaker, Mr. Smith has performed throughout North America, Asia, South America, Europe and Australia. His music has been recorded by various ensembles and is available on CD and download through iTunes, Amazon, and other recorded music outlets.

Mr. Smith is the President/CEO of RWS Music Company, exclusively distributed through C. L. Barnhouse. In addition, he is currently teaching in the Music Industry program at Troy University in Troy, Alabama. His teaching responsibilities are focused in music composition, production, publishing and business.





## **CHRISTMAS SPECTACLE**



















