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FJH DEVELOPING STRINGS

Grade 2

MARCH OF THE SHADOWS

Brian Balmages

Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
5 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Violoncello
5 - Double Bass
1 - Piano

T H E
F · J · H
M U S I C
C O M P A N Y
I N C.

Frank J. Hackinson

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The Composer

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer, conductor, producer, and performer. He received his bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and his master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. Mr. Balmages' compositions have been performed worldwide at conferences including the College Band Directors National Conference, the Midwest Clinic, American String Teachers Association National Conference, and the international trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba/euphonium conferences. His active schedule of commissions and premieres has incorporated groups ranging from elementary schools to professional ensembles, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the Miami Symphony Orchestra, the University of Miami Wind Ensemble, Boston Brass, members of the United States Marine Band, and the Dominion Brass Ensemble. His music has been performed by members of leading orchestras throughout the country and he has enjoyed world premieres and performances in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, as well as performances at the Macy's Day Thanksgiving Parade.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys engagements with numerous all-state and regional honor bands and orchestras along with university and professional groups. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, College Band Directors Eastern Regional Conference, and MENC. Additional conducting appearances have included the Kennedy Center and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. He has also served as an adjunct professor of instrumental conducting and Acting Symphonic Band Director at Towson University in Maryland.

Currently, Mr. Balmages is the Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company Inc. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He resides in Baltimore with his wife, Lisa, and their sons, Jacob and Collin..

About the Music

March of the Shadows is a dark, yet fun work that is designed to introduce students to Eb and Bb. The work specifically stays away from their enharmonics so that students and teachers can focus on hand position before addressing the enharmonics.

The work paints a picture of dark shadows marching in unison through hallways, dark corners, and anywhere else the imagination would like to go. Students should embrace the dissonant lines and be aggressive so the harmonies do not sound weak and out of place. The opening quarter notes should be broad and brooding. Take care to use a true detaché stroke so the notes are not too short, nor too long. Students should be encouraged to use a great deal of bow in these passages.

As most directors know, students will want to rush the pizzicato sections. Take time to rehearse this with students so they understand how deliberate and dramatic these passages should sound. But most of all, have a great time with this piece and all of its sinister sounds!

String Editing: Carrie Lane Gruselle

MARCH OF THE SHADOWS

BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

Sinister (♩ = 104)

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

Piano

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



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ST6257

13

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

11 12 13 14 15

19 Slide up and down around E

Slide up and down around E

16 17 18 19

ST6257

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

20 21 22 23 24

27

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

25 26 27 28 29

pizz.

mp

mp

mp

Score for measures 30-34. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Violin 3 (Vla. T.C.), Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Piano.

Measures 30-34 show a sequence of notes and rests, with dynamic markings *f* and *mp*, and articulation marks like *pizz.* and *V*.

Measures 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 are indicated at the bottom of the score.

Score for measures 35-39. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Violin 3 (Vla. T.C.), Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Piano.

Measures 35-39 show a sequence of notes and rests, with dynamic markings *mf* and *pizz.*, and articulation marks like *arco* and *V*.

Measures 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39 are indicated at the bottom of the score.

42 *arco*
f
arco
f
arco
f
arco
f

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.)
Vla.
Vcl.
D.B.
Piano

40 41 42 43 44

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.)
Vla.
Vcl.
D.B.
Piano

45 46 47 48 49