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FJH DEVELOPING STRINGS

Grade 2.5

SWEET PETITE WINTER SUITE

(FOUR CANDY CHARACTER PIECES)

- I. CANDY CANES
- II. HOT CHOCOLATE
- III. PEPPERMINT BARK
- IV. GINGERBREAD MAN

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

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As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.

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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 holds a bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and a master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. His compositions have been performed worldwide at the state, national and international level. His active schedule of commissions and premieres has incorporated groups ranging from elementary schools to professional ensembles, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Miami Symphony Orchestra, University of Miami Wind Ensemble, Boston Brass, and the Dominion Brass Ensemble. In 2012, Mr. Balmages received the prestigious Albert Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association. He is also a 2010 winner of the Harvey G. Phillips Award for Compositional Excellence, presented by the International Tuba-Euphonium Association.

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, National Association for Music Educators, American School Band Directors Association, CBDNA, 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 two sons.

About the Music

Anyone who knows me will tell you that I have a major sweet tooth. So as the winter holidays approach, I look forward to all the typical treats we associate with the holiday season. The idea for this piece came to me just after Thanksgiving, when our sons got their first candy canes of the year and we made hot chocolate on a cold winter night. Subtitled *Four Candy Character Pieces*, this four-movement work is based on original themes that are supplemented with a little holiday cheer here and there.

The opening movement, *Candy Canes*, is a spirited and joyful celebration that captures all the excitement of a child (or adult) opening the first candy cane of the season. It is in the style of a light dance and is composed in Phrygian mode. Toward the end of the movement, we hear little snippets of "jingle all the way" and "white horse open sleigh." It is a festive opening to the entire work.

The second movement, *Hot Chocolate*, is inspired by the feeling of sitting by a warm fire after being in the snow for a while. In fact, the opening melody hints vaguely at *The Christmas Song* (specifically "chestnuts roasting on an open fire"). The note sequence in violin 1 follows the exact sequence with a few added notes: G - G - F# - (G - F#) E - (G - F#) D. There are several phrase extensions that occur throughout this movement, symbolic of a feeling of contentment that we all want to last just a bit longer.

The third movement, *Peppermint Bark*, is a humorous movement cast in a simple multi-meter form. It can be conducted with a quarter note pulse, or it can be done in one with the 4/4 measures in cut-time. The offbeats throughout the movement almost sound like a dog barking, perhaps frolicking in the snow. Ideally, quarter notes should not be full value so the music has a light dance-like quality to it. Off the string is ideal, but short notes on the string is also an option.

The last movement, *Gingerbread Man*, has a tempo marking of "Can't Catch Me!" and should be played accordingly. The movement depicts a gingerbread man running around while being chased by different holiday carols. These carols appear in different styles and use various altered harmonies and melodies. Listeners will hear brief appearances of *Good King Wenceslas*, *Jingle Bells*, *Up on the Housetop*, *Jolly Old Saint Nicholas*, *Deck the Halls*, and even the sound of sleigh bells.

It is my hope that this music will take you back to some of your favorite memories with some of your favorite holiday treats!

SWEET PETITE WINTER SUITE

BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

Spirited! (♩ = 126)

5



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ST6359

13

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

14 15 16 17 18 19

21

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

20 22 23 24 25 26

29

Score for measures 27-33. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., and Piano. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 27-32 and *mf* (mezzo-forte) for measure 33. The score features a large red watermark reading "Preview Use Requires Purchase".



Score for measures 34-40. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., and Piano. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 34-37 and *p* (piano) for measures 38-40. The score features a large red watermark reading "Preview Use Requires Purchase".



II. Hot Chocolate

Heart warming (♩ = 72)

Score for II. Hot Chocolate, Heart warming (♩ = 72). The score is written for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., and Piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as Heart warming (♩ = 72).

The score is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 1 through 5, and the second system covers measures 6 through 10. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

First System (Measures 1-5):

- Vln. 1:** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 1-3), *mp* (measures 4-5).
- Vln. 2:** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 1-3), *mp* (measures 4-5).
- Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.):** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 1-3), *mp* (measures 4-5).
- Vla.:** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 1-3), *mp* (measures 4-5).
- Vcl.:** Starts with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. Dynamics: *p* (measures 1-3), *mp* (measures 4-5).
- D.B.:** Starts with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. Dynamics: *p* (measures 1-3), *mp* (measures 4-5).
- Piano:** Starts with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. Dynamics: *p* (measures 1-3), *mp* (measures 4-5).

Second System (Measures 6-10):

- Vln. 1:** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 6-7), *mp* (measures 8-10).
- Vln. 2:** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 6-7), *mp* (measures 8-10).
- Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.):** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 6-7), *mp* (measures 8-10).
- Vla.:** Starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Dynamics: *p* (measures 6-7), *mp* (measures 8-10).
- Vcl.:** Starts with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. Dynamics: *p* (measures 6-7), *mp* (measures 8-10).
- D.B.:** Starts with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. Dynamics: *p* (measures 6-7), *mp* (measures 8-10).
- Piano:** Starts with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. Dynamics: *p* (measures 6-7), *mp* (measures 8-10).

Measure numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 are indicated below the staves.

poco rit.

Vln. 1 *mf* *mp*

Vln. 2 *mf* *mp*

Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.) *mf* *mp*

Vla. *mf* *mp*

Vcl. *mf* *mp*

D.B. *mf* *mp*

Piano *mf* *mp*

11 12 13 14 15

16 A tempo **rit.**

Vln. 1 *p* *pp*

Vln. 2 *p* *pp*

Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.) *p* *pp*

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vcl. *p* *pp*

D.B. *pp*

Piano *p* *pp*

17 18 19 20 21

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Piano

Online Purchase

This musical score is for measures 7 through 12 of the piece 'The Rose Tree'. It is arranged for a full orchestra and piano. The score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Vln. 1:** Violin 1, starting with a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic and transitioning to *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measure 8.
- Vln. 2:** Violin 2, starting with a *mp* dynamic and transitioning to *mf* in measure 8.
- Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.):** Violin 3 / Viola Contralto, starting with a *mp* dynamic and transitioning to *mf* in measure 8.
- Vla.:** Viola, starting with a *mp* dynamic and transitioning to *mf* in measure 8.
- Vcl.:** Violoncello, starting with a *mp* dynamic and transitioning to *mf* in measure 8.
- D.B.:** Double Bass, starting with a *mp* dynamic and transitioning to *mf* in measure 8.
- Piano:** Piano, starting with a *mp* dynamic and transitioning to *mf* in measure 8.

The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and slurs, indicating the flow and phrasing of the music. A large red watermark 'Red Bull' is visible across the score.

Score for measures 13 to 18. The score is written for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., and Piano. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 3/4. The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score includes a large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Requires Purchase".

Measures 13 to 18 are shown. The score includes a large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Requires Purchase".

Score for measures 19 to 25. The score is written for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., and Piano. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 3/4. The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score includes a large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Requires Purchase".

Measures 19 to 25 are shown. The score includes a large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Requires Purchase".

28

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

1.

H2

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

26

27

29

30

31

2.

H2

pizz.

pizz.
H2

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

p

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

IV. Gingerbread Man

"Can't Catch Me!" (♩ = 144)

Score for "Can't Catch Me!" (♩ = 144), measures 1 through 8.

Measures 1-4:

- Vln. 1:** *mp*, quarter notes, 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vln. 2:** *mp*, quarter notes, 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.):** *mp*, quarter notes, 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vla.:** *mp*, quarter notes, 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vcl.:** *mp*, quarter notes, 4th measure has a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking.
- D.B.:** *mp*, quarter notes, 4th measure has a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking.
- Piano:** *mp*, quarter notes, 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.

Measures 5-8:

- Vln. 1:** *f* (measures 5-6), *mp* (measures 7-8), 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vln. 2:** *f* (measures 5-6), *mp* (measures 7-8), 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.):** *f* (measures 5-6), *mp* (measures 7-8), 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vla.:** *f* (measures 5-6), *mp* (measures 7-8), 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Vcl.:** *f* (measures 5-6), *mp* (measures 7-8), 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- D.B.:** *f* (measures 5-6), *mp* (measures 7-8), 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.
- Piano:** *f* (measures 5-6), *mp* (measures 7-8), 4th measure has a *V* (accusato) marking.

Measure numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 are indicated below the staves.

Score for measures 9-12. Instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., Piano.

Measures 9-12 show a rhythmic pattern in the strings and piano. Vln. 1, 2, 3, and Vla. play a series of eighth notes. Vcl. and D.B. play a series of eighth notes. Piano plays a series of eighth notes. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *arco* (arco).

Score for measures 13-16. Instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., Piano.

Measures 13-16 show a continuation of the rhythmic pattern. Vln. 1, 2, 3, and Vla. play a series of eighth notes. Vcl. and D.B. play a series of eighth notes. Piano plays a series of eighth notes. Dynamics include *pizz.* (pizzicato), *(slap)*, and *arco* (arco).

20

24

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

4

L2

3

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

26

27

28

29

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

4

div.

L2

L2

L2

4

30

31

32

33

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