

# WHERE THE RIVER SHANNON FLOWS

JAMES I. RUSSELL

*Arranged by*

**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

FJH is now using a high-speed sorting system for parts.  
As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.

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 Arranger



Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer, conductor, producer, and performer. The music he has written for winds, brass, and orchestra 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 received his bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and his master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. He is a recipient of the prestigious A. Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association 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.

## Program Notes

*Where the River Shannon Flows* is a beautiful Irish song about a man dreaming of the day he can return to his country to be with the girl he loves. This particular setting weaves the melody through an increasingly complex series of textures and harmonies before returning to the plaintive sounds of the opening. At times, the piece feels more like a fantasy than an arrangement, particularly when the cello and bass have melodic material. In addition to helping the piece have a very natural flow, this adds some subtle moments of tension as the piece moves toward its glorious climax.

The piece was commissioned by a consortium made up of the following schools:

DaVinci Academy of Arts and Science – Ham Lake, MN; Michael Hebert  
 Franklin Middle School – Franklin, TN; Carole Smith Grooms  
 Frost Middle School – Livonia, MI; Michael J. Rais  
 John T. Baker Middle School – Damascus, MD; Michael Kamuf  
 Macy Intermediate School – Monterey Park, CA; Glen Kamida  
 North Torrance Young Musicians Ensemble – Torrance, CA; David Hayami  
 St. Francis Preparatory School – Fresh Meadows, NY; Robert Johnston  
 Standley Middle School – San Diego, CA; Julie Yaeger

- Brian Balmages

# WHERE THE RIVER SHANNON FLOWS

JAMES I. RUSSELL

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BRIAN BALMAGES

(ASCAP)

Peaceful, molto legato (♩ = 84)

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola  
(Violin 3)

Violoncello

Double Bass

Piano

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.



Hear and download this  
piece at [www.fjhmusic.com](http://www.fjhmusic.com)

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ST6458

11

Vln. 1 *mp* *mf*

Vln. 2 *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vcl. *mp* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp* *mf*

11 12 13 14 15 16

20

Vln. 1 *mp* *mf*

Vln. 2 *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf* non div.

Vcl. *mp* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp* *mf*

17 18 19 20 21 22

4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

23 24 25 26 27

*p*

28

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

28 29 30 31 32

*p* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

38 39 40 41 42 43

44 rit. -----

Vln. 1 *f* *ff* *mp*

Vln. 2 *f* *ff* *mp*

Vla. *f* *ff* *mp*

Vcl. *f* *ff* *mp*

D.B. *f* *ff* *mp*

Pno. *f* *ff* *mp*

44 45 46 47 48

49 A tempo rit.

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vla. non div. *p*

Vcl. *p*

D.B. *p*

Pno. *p*

49 50 51 52 53 54