

A CELTIC CELEBRATION

BRIAN BALMAGES

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor Score
- 4 Flute 1
- 4 Flute 2
- 2 Oboe
- 2 Bassoon
- 5 B♭ Clarinet 1
- 5 B♭ Clarinet 2
- 2 B♭ Bass Clarinet
- 2 E♭ Alto Saxophone 1
- 2 E♭ Alto Saxophone 2
- 2 B♭ Tenor Saxophone
- 2 E♭ Baritone Saxophone
- 4 B♭ Trumpet 1
- 4 B♭ Trumpet 2
- 4 F Horn
- 2 Trombone 1
- 2 Trombone 2

- 2 Euphonium
- 2 Baritone T.C.
- 4 Tuba
- 1 Timpani
- 1 Mallet Percussion 1
(Bells)
- 2 Mallet Percussion 2
(Vibraphone, Xylophone)
- 1 Mallet Percussion 3
(Chimes)
- 2 Percussion 1
(Wind Chimes, Triangle,
Low Tom, Frame Drum)
- 3 Percussion 2
(Crash Cymbals, Hi-hat,
Tambourine, Suspended Cymbal)

SUPPLEMENTAL and WORLD PARTS

The following instruments and transpositions
(all parts) are available to download from
www.alfred.com/supplemental

- E♭ Alto Clarinet
- E♭ Contra Alto Clarinet
- B♭ Contra Bass Clarinet
- E♭ Horn
- B♭ Trombone T.C.
- B♭ Trombone B.C.
- B♭ Euphonium B.C.
- B♭ Tuba T.C.
- B♭ Tuba B.C.
- E♭ Tuba T.C.
- E♭ Tuba B.C.
- String Bass





THE COMPOSER

Brian Balmages is known worldwide as a composer and conductor who equally spans the worlds of orchestral, band, and chamber music. His music has been performed by groups ranging from professional symphony orchestras to elementary schools in venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Sydney Opera House, Toronto Centre for the Arts, and many more. He is a recipient of the A. Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association, won the 2020 NBA William D. Revelli Composition Contest with his work *Love and Light*, and is an elected member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. Balmages was awarded the inaugural James Madison University Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Visual and Performing Arts. 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. 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.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys regular engagements with all-state and regional ensembles as well as university and professional groups throughout the world. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, Maryborough Music Conference (Australia), College Band Directors Conference, American School Band Directors Association National Conference, numerous state ASTA conferences, Teatro dell'Aquila (Italy), and others. Currently, he is Director of MakeMusic Publications and Digital Education for Alfred and MakeMusic.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Based entirely on original material, *A Celtic Celebration* pays homage to an incredibly rich history of folk music most notably from Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. The opening of the work is set as a slow Air, which mimics the rhythmically free, slow singing style. There are numerous tempo indications included to help achieve a more authentic flow, but conductors should feel comfortable challenging the ensemble to commit to a true sense of rubato throughout the entire opening.

The celebration takes the form of a Jig, written in 6/8 time. While the instrumentation calls for low tom and frame drum, conductors are welcome to experiment with using more traditional Celtic instruments when available, with the most notable being a bodhran. This entire section should feel light and bouncy, even when the dynamics indicate that the music should be powerful.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Beginning in ms. 26, make sure that students are observing the quarter notes followed by an eighth rest and allowing there to be some space there. They should also be extremely aware of accents, which typically occur at the ends of phrases. At ms. 42, clarinets should be evenly balanced with flutes and oboes. The countermelody at ms. 50 should then equally balance as well (if not be slightly louder). At ms. 66, even though there are no articulations in the winds, the style still implies some lift and a firm articulation on all notes.

At ms. 76, conductors should actually focus on the chorale in the lower voices. In my mind, we have heard the melody numerous times now, so it no longer needs to be the focus. The chorale is new, so that should be the most present. At ms. 114, balance can revert back to a more typical approach and remain that way through the end of the piece. Directors will want to isolate low reeds, low brass, and percussion at ms. 138 to make sure they are lined up rhythmically before adding in the rest of the ensemble.

A Celtic Celebration was commissioned by the East Stroudsburg Area High School North Band in Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania; Paul M. Bakner, Director of Bands.

—Brian Balmages

DURATION: 3:15

commissioned by the East Stroudsburg Area High School North Band
Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania; Paul M. Bakner, Director

A CELTIC CELEBRATION

BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

Reflectively (♩ = 64)

Musical score for A Celtic Celebration, featuring various instruments including Flutes, Oboe, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinets, B♭ Bass Clarinet, E♭ Alto Saxophones, B♭ Tenor Saxophone, E♭ Baritone Saxophone, B♭ Trumpets, F Horn, Trombones, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Mallet Percussion 1 (Bells), Mallet Percussion 2 (Vibraphone, Xylophone), Mallet Percussion 3 (Chimes), Percussion 1 (Wind Chimes, Triangle, Low Tom, Frame Drum), and Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals, Hi-hat, Tambourine, Suspended Cymbal). The score is marked Reflectively (♩ = 64) and includes dynamic markings such as mp and mf.

2 3 4 5 6



11 con moto

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Sus. Cym.

mp *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

poco rit.

a tempo

Fls. 1 2 *f* *mp*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f* *mp*

Cls. 1 2 *f* *mp*

B. Cl. *f* *mp*

A. Saxes 1 2 *f* *mp*

T. Sax. *f* *mp*

B. Sax. *f* *mp*

poco rit.

a tempo

Tpts. 1 2 *f* *mp*

Hn. *f* *mp*

Tbns. 1 2 *f* *mp*

Euph. *f* *mp*

Tuba *f* *mp*

Timp. *f*

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells) *mf*

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.) *mf*

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.) *mf*

Perc. 1 Wind Chimes *f* Tri. *p*

Perc. 2 Cr. Cym. *f*

rit.

22 Allegro (♩. = 126)

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Legal Use Requires Purchase

always dampen unless otherwise noted

Low Tom

Frame Drum

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn. *mp*

Cls. 1 *mp*
2 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes 1 *play mp*
2 *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbns. 1
2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp. *mp*

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2

42

Musical score for various instruments including Fls., Ob., Bsn., Cls., B. Cl., A. Saxes, T. Sax., B. Sax., Tpts., Hn., Tbn., Euph., Tuba, Timp., Mlt. Perc. 1, 2, 3, Perc. 1, and Perc. 2. The score includes dynamic markings like *mf* and performance instructions like *(no pedal)*.

58

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

54 55 56 57 59 60

f

mf

head

Hi-hat

Legal Use Requires Purchase

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

66

This page contains a musical score for an orchestra, spanning measures 68 to 74. The instruments listed are:

- Fls. (Flutes) 1 and 2
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Bsn. (Bassoon)
- Cls. (Clarinets) 1 and 2
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- A. Saxes (Alto Saxophones) 1 and 2
- T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone)
- B. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone)
- Tpts. (Trumpets) 1 and 2
- Hn. (Horn)
- Tbn. (Tenor Trombone) 1 and 2
- Euph. (Euphonium)
- Tuba
- Timp. (Timpani)
- Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)
- Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)
- Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)
- Perc. 1
- Perc. 2

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (e.g., *f*), and performance instructions like 'dampen'. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

76

Fls. 1 2

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

76

Tpts. 1 2

Hn. *mp*

Tbns. 1 2 *mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Timp. *p*

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells) *mp*

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.) *mp* pedal every 2 measures

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

The image shows a page of a musical score for measures 75 through 82. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for different instruments. The woodwind section includes Flutes (Fls.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets (Cls.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophones (A. Saxes), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax.). The brass section includes Trumpets (Tpts.), Horns (Hn.), Trombones (Tbns.), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), Mallet Percussion 1 (Bells), Mallet Percussion 2 (Vibraphone and Xylophone), Mallet Percussion 3 (Chimes), and two other Percussion parts (Perc. 1 and Perc. 2). The score is marked with a dynamic of *mp* (mezzo-piano) for most instruments, and *p* (piano) for the Timpani. A large red watermark reading 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page. A box containing the number '76' is located at the top of the page and above the Trombone staff.

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2 *mp*

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2 *mp*

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp. *mp*

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 Sus. Cym.

83 *p* *mp* 85 86 87 88 89 90 *p*

92

Fls. 1 2 *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cls. 1 2 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Saxes 1 2 *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

92

Tpts. 1 2 *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbns. 1 2 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells) *mf*

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.) *mf* no pedal

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.) *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

50994S 91 93 94 95 96 97

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Tamb.

mf

98 99 100 101 102 103

Sus. Cym. *p*

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Cr. Cym. dampen

dampen

f

mp

div.

105 109 110 111

114

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

114

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

This page contains a musical score for a large ensemble, including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The score is divided into two systems, each starting at measure 122. The instruments listed are:

- Fls.:** Flute 1 and 2
- Ob.:** Oboe
- Bsn.:** Bassoon
- Cls.:** Clarinet 1 and 2
- B. Cl.:** Bass Clarinet
- A. Saxes:** Alto Saxophone 1 and 2
- T. Sax.:** Tenor Saxophone
- B. Sax.:** Baritone Saxophone
- Tpts.:** Trumpet 1 and 2
- Hn.:** Horn
- Tbps.:** Trombone 1 and 2
- Euph.:** Euphonium
- Tuba:** Tuba
- Timp.:** Timpani
- Mt. Perc. 1 (Bells):** Mallet Percussion 1
- Mt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.):** Mallet Percussion 2
- Mt. Perc. 3 (Ch.):** Mallet Percussion 3
- Perc. 1:** Percussion 1
- Perc. 2:** Percussion 2

The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *play*. A large red watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page. Measure numbers 118 through 124 are indicated at the bottom of the page.

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)

Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)

Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Fls. 1 2
Ob.
Bsn.
Cls. 1 2
B. Cl.
A. Saxes 1 2
T. Sax.
B. Sax.
Tpts. 1 2
Hn.
Tbns. 1 2
Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
Mlt. Perc. 1 (Bells)
Mlt. Perc. 2 (Vib., Xyl.)
Mlt. Perc. 3 (Ch.)
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

ff
ff
ff
div.
ff
ff
ff