

Quadritium A Fantasy on Four Notes

Mike Forbes

BPS53 INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score1Flute.8Oboe (Opt. Flute 2).2Clarinet in B^{\downarrow} .8Bass Clarinet in B^{\downarrow} .2Alto Saxophone in E^{\downarrow} .5Tenor Saxophone in B^{\downarrow} .2Baritone Saxophone in E^{\downarrow} .2Trumpet in B^{\downarrow} .8Horn in F.3Trombone, Baritone B.C., Bassoon.6Baritone T.C. in B^{\downarrow} .2Tuba.3Mallet Percussion.1Bells
Timpani (optional)
Percussion 24 Crash Cymbals, Tambourine, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal

Program Notes

Quadritium, a Fantasy on Four Notes, was written specifically to introduce beginning musicians to new ways of thinking about music. While the music is not atonal (far from it) the use of quartal harmonies derived from the interval of the perfect fourth lead the players down melodic and rhythmic episodes all derived from the number four. Four-measure phrases, the interval of the fourth, rhythms involving nothing faster than quarter notes, and the use of just four notes permeate this work for beginning bands. Of special note: The trumpets, baritones, and tubas will only utilize their first valve throughout the work. Likewise, trombonists will only need to use first and third positions. This work makes for a simplified introduction to contemporary music and allows directors to get away from "learning the notes" and focus on other elements of music (rhythm, balance, blend, dynamics, etc.) in their rehearsals. At the same time, the work introduces young musicians and audiences to new musical ideas in an approachable and intriguing framework.

About the Composer

An artist of widely diverse musical talents, Mike Forbes has set forth on a career encompassing all aspects of performing, composing, teaching and conducting. He began his writing career creating hundreds of arrangements and compositions especially for brass, many of which are performed by today's foremost brass ensembles. His works for the Sotto Voce Tuba Quartet (a group he co-found and manages) have also gained him worldwide acclaim. He began to compose for other genres as dozens of commissions from big-name brass artists to university and high school band directors began to come in. He now considers himself extremely lucky to be a full-time composer and arranger writing especially for Carl Fischer Music.

Forbes began his career as a tubist in the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own," where he was also very fortunate to compose and arrange for the various ensembles in that prestigious unit. He left the band for a career in academia where he has served on the faculties of Illinois State University, Mary Washington University, Columbia Union College, and Frederick Community College. He continues to be an active freelance performer and has performed with a host of orchestras and bands throughout the United States. He can be heard on Summit Records on a number of Sotto Voce Quartet albums but also on his own solo recording, *Forbes Plays Koetsier* where he features all seven works for solo tuba by Dutch composer, Jan Koetsier. As a conductor, Forbes served as the musical director of the Brass Band of Central Illinois and has guest conducted numerous elements of the U.S. Army Band. He is highly in demand as a guest conductor with junior and senior high honor bands and youth brass bands.

Forbes studied with some of the most well-known tuba pedagogues in the world, including composer/tubist, John Stevens. He received his DMA at the University of Maryland, MM at the University of Wisconsin and a BM at the Pennsylvania State University. During his junior year at Penn State he enrolled in an exchange program in Manchester, England where he continued his studies at the University of Manchester and the Royal Northern College of Music. His time in England afforded him the opportunity to grow intimately familiar with the British Brass Band Tradition, from which he draws a great deal of his compositional influence.

Commissioned by Ben McIntosh for the 2007 class of the Academy of Creative Education, North Hollywood, California





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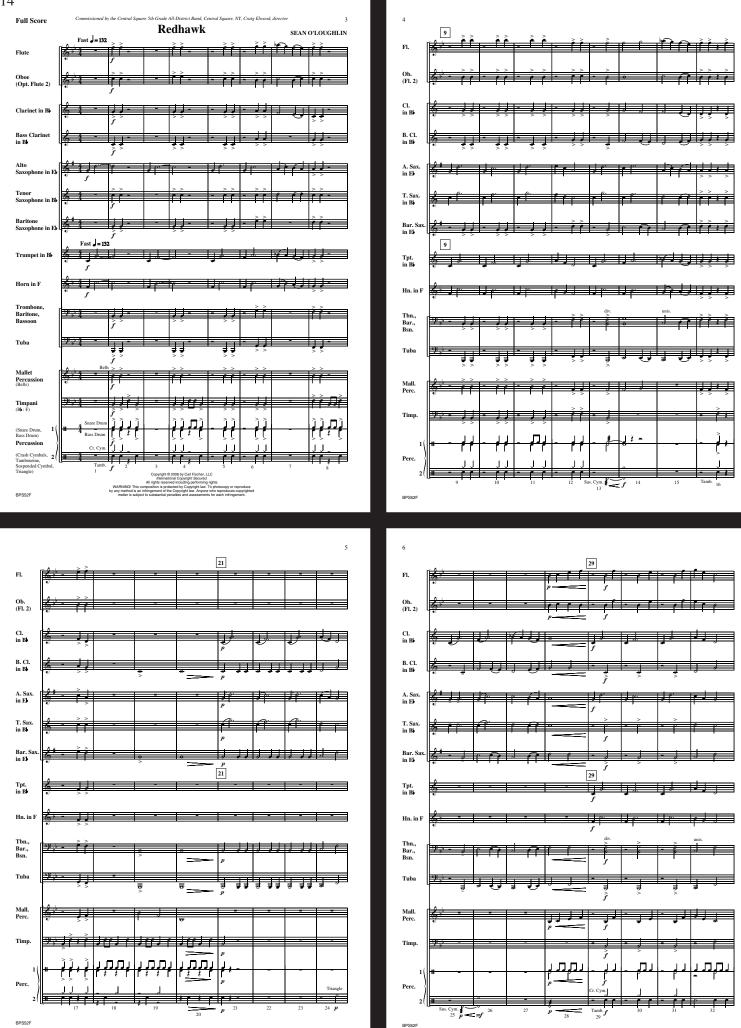


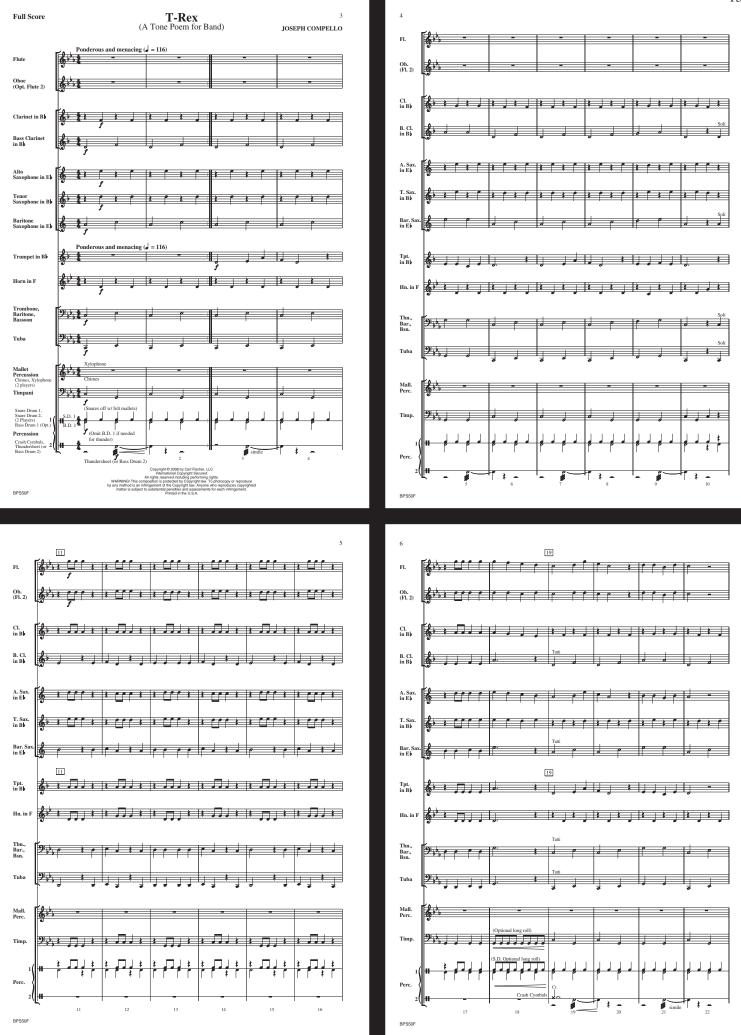


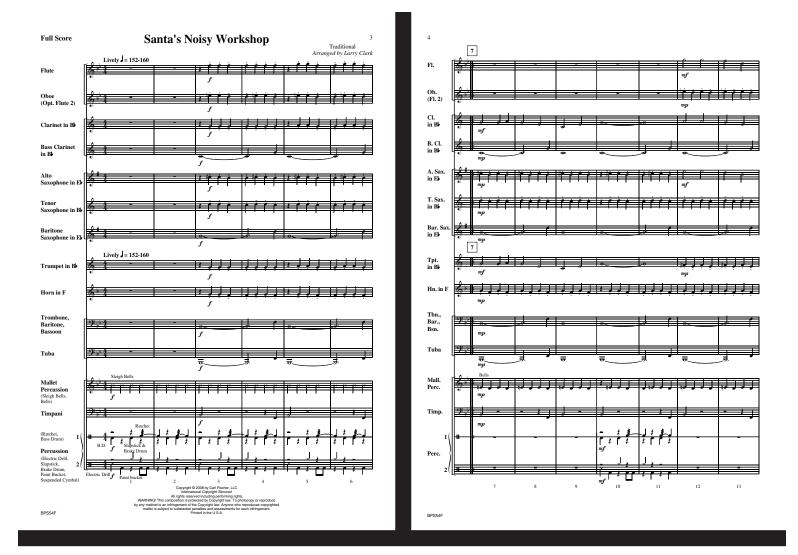
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Within each grade level, you will find selections in a variety of styles and genres designed to meet all of your performance and teaching needs. The Carl Fischer composers and arrangers are some of the most respected writers in the business. Their music is dynamic, fresh and eminently worthy of your attention.

Beginning Performance Series

- For the first year band
- Limited instrumentation (bass covered by any low brass woodwind instruments)
- Limited ranges, rhythms (only simple eighth-note patterns), independence of parts
- Playable after limited study time
- Clarinet below break
- Active percussion writing
- Short pieces length is a consideration for young embouchures

 BPS53
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 \$45.00
 Set

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