

## Session Chat

From KatarinaA : Robert Thirsk High School

From Chris Bushell : Chris Bushell, Innisfail Middle and High School

From Gregory Dewing : st Joseph high school

From Robert Brown : Hey there. University of the Pacific Music Ed grad assistant here - Here to support Dr. Ruth Brittin and her excellent composition!

From Jacqueline Crowell : Jackie crowell Five Bridges Junior HIGH IN Hubley NS

From Jeff Part : jeff Part. Louis Riel. General Music  
From Jeff Part : are the burgers ready?

From rbrittin : hi everyone... teaching another class right now but will try to pop in and out! thanks for including me, ruth brittin

From 7RKPrs : looks good! hi from Scot Godin

From Colette.Karapita : Colette from Yorkton, SK

From Jennifer Mann : Jennifer Mann - Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School - Red Deer

From Chelsea Pederson : Chelsea Pederson: olds high school

From Kerry : Kerry Heisler, Sylvan Lake, H.J. Cody School

From Jennifer Mann : Calista Lonsdale-Pangle - GH Dawe School - Red Deer

From Dave Jensen : Dave Jensen - Calgary - Nickle Middle School

From 7RKPrs : Scott Godin - Coaldale, AB

From Debbie Enstrom : Debbie Enstrom, Lloydminster Catholic SD

From Becky tMannetje : Becky Funk ('tMannetje), Calgary Academy

From Verna Ahner : Verna Ahner, Springbank Middle, Calgary, Rocky View Schools

From Mrs. Slough : Andrea Slough, Holy Child, Calgary Catholic

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Kathie Van Lare - retired from school teaching but a community band director. Okotoks area.

From Wayne Toews : Greetings! Don was my student in high school. He has done a fabulous job of adapting to the current situation to support music education.

From Chris Bushell : Diana Bushell, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys in Innisfail

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Jane McLauchlin - retired from school teaching (but on the CBE sub list!) Junior high for 30 years in Calgary and Artistic Director with Westwinds Music Society.

From Keith Krushel : Keith Krushel Bowness High School

### **Acropolis**

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : The oboe part would make a good 2nd flute part if you have lots of flute players in your band.

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Everyone gets a chance to be featured; an introduction to syncopation; some unison/octaves at the beginning which would require some basic tuning work for young people. Eighth notes occur on all the beats (I think?) throughout the song, so might challenge the students a bit.

From Travis Conrad : Travis Conrad R.I. Baker Middle School in Coaldale.

### **Vulcan's Forge**

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : My students would have loved Vulcan Forge. Horn gets support from the saxes, great concepts with change of tempos, some dynamics, slurs and agogic accents - exciting for young players.

### **Percussion Resources**

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : If you have an up and coming drum set player - let them loose on this (or even just the kid who can just get by on drum set - it would be very inspiring!)

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Check out William Schinstine's body percussion pieces too. More advanced players will have fun with Rock Trap.

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Tom Spila, (retired from Camrose Comp. H. S.), currently directing Camrose & District Community Band

### **Slavic Festival**

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Slavic festival was not in the usual Bb concert, which is nice. :-)

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Slavic Festival: Great introduction to " Slavic sounds" for young bands.

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Slavic Festival would be fun for your Klezmer band too! :-)

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : It would take some work to keep the clarinet and

alto sax moving line under the flute line in the opening. A decent lyrical piece for young band, the lines move enough to keep it interesting.

### **Down by the Shalley Gardens**

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Sally Garden: Like that this gives director an opportunity for some rubato work with young band.

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Don - this is such a nice touch having composers intro their piece. Nicely done!

From Mireille Robinson : Agreed! Puts faces to some names I've seen on music for the last 25 years + !!

### **Arctic Wars**

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Arctic Wars - percussion part is more interesting than most. It's a well crafted piece.

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Arctic Wars: good dramatic piece for this level.

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Arctic Wars: Everyone gets a chance to shine, exciting music to play, lots going on, but not too difficult for a 1st year band, later in their year. Excellent doubling in parts between woodwinds and brass to help with some of those more difficult bits.

### **The Gods of Egypt**

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Gods of Egypt - percussion part is very challenging for this level of band.

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : In picking music I always also thought about what concepts I could teach as well as the performance part. I couldn't help but think I could teach the kids about diminished chords as I was listening to the opening.

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : The Gods of Egypt - Love how many accidentals are being used - but because the music is so interesting, students will be all over it. Challenging rhythmic ideas, but repetitive, so shouldn't be too difficult once they get the idea. I probably wouldn't do this with a first year band though - maybe to start off their 2nd year?

### **In the Cool of the Evening**

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Matt is a clarinet player and purposely writes clarinet parts in the lower range to prepare them for when they are working on getting over the break.

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Cool of Evening: Some nice soli moments for each section.

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Cool of the Evening - clarinet part stays in the chalumeau register.

### **The Dragon Lord**

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : If you don't know Darklands March, by Standridge, check it out. Gr 2.

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Dragon Lord - one clarinet part - chalumeau register.

### **Pine Island March**

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Pine Island March: clarinet part crosses break for a brief period.

From Chris Herard : Scott rush is amazing.

Chris Herard : that book is a fantastic resource as a method book.

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : I hope that directors know that there is much support for them and their programs. Don't hesitate to contact old-timers if you need help.

From Jeff Part : oooooo bruce pearson!

From Missiker Tekley : Thank you Wayne - a very nice note for directors

From iPhone (2)Larry : The one thing I am noticing is this NEW music seems more tuneful then I remember in the past and everyone seems to play some melody. Also hearing good partner song writing.

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : As the father of a tuba player I look for what the low brass players learn by playing the pieces.

### **Dancing Lights**

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : This one really challenges the Clar 1 players, and is music easier for 2nd - not necessarily a terrible thing ...

### **Walking Tune**

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Some composers are really good at scoring for band. Robert Sheldon is one of those composers.

From Tom Spila (mentor) : I've used a variety of R. Sheldon's pieces and have, along with band members, enjoyed them all.

### **Flowers**

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Flowers: 7-8 percussion parts for a lyrical piece - such a nice change for the percussionists! Kids will have to know where the melody is in that middle section or it will be lost. I generally love most things that Standridge puts out.

### **Bees**

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Bees: Fun! I can see students enjoying the novelty of this.

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Bees: Some great articulation challenges in here, trombones will be in heaven (or terrified), key changes, stylistic change, trills, fun effects. Great fun!

From iPhone (2)Larry : BEES-a opportunity to have a reason to teach some Chromatic scales.

### **Sunset Lullaby**

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Important to pick music that is not just in common time.

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Amen to that Kathie. I was just going to add that it is nice

to hear some beautiful lyric pieces in 3/4 time.

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : The trumpet range and endurance might be a challenge for 2nd year players.

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Sunset: well written, sounds mature.

### **Earthdawn**

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : Earthdawn - that is a TOUGH opening. But beautiful!

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : I could be wrong, but it seems a bit deceptively challenging. But really exciting, interesting stuff if you think you've got the 'horses' at this level. It is absolutely do-able!

From Tom Spila (mentor) : Bye everyone. Have to leave the session for another commitment. Thanks Don for the session and for introducing us to the composers. Hope that everyone is able to adapt and continue your programs in these strange times.

From Missiker Tekley : Thank you Tom! And a huge thanks to all the mentors here - the feedback you're providing is hugely appreciated.

From Chris Herard : yes thanks Don!

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : On Thursday, August 27, from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m., please join members of the Alberta Band Association Board of Directors for a conversation and brain storming session surrounding the new realities of instrumental music education in Alberta and what we as educators can do to make our music classrooms and rehearsals successful and inspiring. In addition to briefly discussing the available research and the activities of the ABA over the past few weeks, attendees will be divided into discussion groups specific to their teaching scenario this fall to share ideas, resources, and inspiration.

From Jane McLauchlin (mentor) : To register for the roundtable, please complete the online form (<https://forms.gle/d3UvcWpFojPteZT87>). Once registered, you will be sent a login link to the zoom meeting. The deadline for registration is Thursday, August 27 at 6:30 p.m.

From Missiker Tekley : Thank you Chris!

From Kerry : Thanks Chris!

From Chris Herard : hope to see everyone there.

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : shoediva9@gmail.com

From Chris Herard : there is also a 12 week program this fall with that book. it's free and will be amazing - led by dr. Tim and Scott

From Jander Talen : Thanks, Don! Let's make this year an awesome one, Team!!

### **The Quest**

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : The Quest - interesting, well crafted, lots of essential percussion, wide dynamic range, expressive, I wonder how the players will respond.

From Chris Bushell : Thanks Don. Have to run.

### **Danza la Habana**

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Thank you Ruth!

From Brigida Battistessa : 🎵🎵🎵

From Joel Abrams : Awesome. Thank you!

From Chris Herard : thanks Ruth! very nice! I'll be playing that...

From Chris Herard : (when we can play)

From Wayne Toews (Mentor) : Best wishes to all. Bye for now.

From Music Direct : Huge thank you to you Wayne!!

From iPhone (2)Larry : I hope everyone has a Great Year! I must sign off now!

### **Carpe Diem**

17:39:10 From Chris Herard : epic!

From Kerry : Thanks for a great session, Don! So much work, appreciated! It will certainly be a different year. Take care all!

From Jennifer Mann : THANK YOU so much , Don and Music Direct staff, for everything you have done to put this day together. Sadly I must run off to another meeting. I'm hoping to watch the rest via the recording. Take good care, everyone!

### **Super (em)Powers**

From Chris Herard : like it!

### **Whacked**

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Bass clarinet and bari players will be drooling.

17:48:41 From 7RKPrs : THanks Don - as usual great work curating some interesting works!

Thanks Don! I've appreciated all of the music and listening. As always, I'm wholly grateful to Music Direct for all that you do for the music community. Thank you and stay safe!

### **Glorious Insurrection**

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Very cool!

From Chris Herard : like it

From Chris Herard : what was this called again?

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Me too. Need some horses!

From Missiker Tekley : Glorious Insurrection

From Chris Herard : kids would love this.

From Kathie Van Lare (Mentor) : Gotta go! Thanks Don and crew for putting so much work into this presentation. Best wishes to everyone in an unprecedented school year. Be safe.

From Danielle Wahl : Hi Don and crew - Bryant and I are loving this and can keep listening if you want to keep playing!

From Chris Herard : I'll need to get going in about 5, but I'm so impressed with your choices Don. also loved the composer intros. you should keep that going even when we are back to normal. thanks so much! how do I order? via email?

From Kirk Wassmer : I have to take off Don, but thank you for all of your work in putting this together!!

From Missiker Tekley : Thank you all for your nice comments! We will keep the session going for anyone who's able to stay.

From Missiker Tekley : Chris - yes, you can order via email or phone, whichever works better for you. We also have all of these titles on our webpage, so an online order is an option as well.

From Chris Herard : thanks again Don and Missiker- Great work!

From Brigida Battistessa : Thanks Don , great reading session ☺. . Wishing everyone a safe start up .