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FJH CONCERT BAND

Grade 3

CALL OF THE WILD

Brian Balmages

Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score	2 - Baritone/ Euphonium
4 - Flute 1	2 - Baritone T.C.
4 - Flute 2	4 - Tuba
2 - Oboe	1 - Timpani
2 - Bassoon	3 - Mallet Percussion
5 - B♭ Clarinet 1	Bells
5 - B♭ Clarinet 2	Vibraphone
2 - B♭ Bass Clarinet	Chimes
2 - E♭ Alto Saxophone 1	3 - Percussion 1
2 - E♭ Alto Saxophone 2	Snare Drum
2 - B♭ Tenor Saxophone	Bass Drum
2 - E♭ Baritone Saxophone	Triangle
4 - B♭ Trumpet 1	4 - Percussion 2
4 - B♭ Trumpet 2	Crash Cymbals
4 - F Horn	Suspended Cymbal
2 - Trombone 1	Tom-toms
2 - Trombone 2	Tam-tam

Extra Conductor Score: \$0.00
Extra Parts: \$0.00

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



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

Based on the novel by the same name, *The Call of the Wild* is a musical portrayal of the story by American author Jack London. Taking place in the Yukon during the 19th century, the story follows Buck, a domesticated St. Bernard / Scotch Sheep mix who is taken from his comfortable life in California and subject to the brutal life of a sled dog. As he endures harsh treatment from humans, other animals and nature itself, he struggles with his identity and eventually gives in to his natural instincts, which help him become a natural leader in the wild.

Each section of the piece is titled after a chapter in the novel. The opening section, “Into the Primitive,” serves as an introduction to the entire work and underscores the brutal introduction into primitive law, where “might makes right.” The dissonant trills create an immediate feeling of uneasiness, while the bold brass fanfares signal the distant call of the wild. The bold percussion hits represent the clash of civilized and primitive lives. As Buck begins to adjust to his new surroundings, the dissonant trills give way to full fanfares, indicating Buck's growing resolve to do whatever it takes to stay alive.

The second section, “The Dominant Primordial Beast,” depicts the chapter in which Buck and his rival Spitz become increasing hostile toward each other. Spitz takes every opportunity he has to attack Buck, but their owners prevent the attack. However, it eventually becomes clear that there will be a final dual between the two dogs. The music of this section evolves in much the same way as the story. The rivalry between Buck and Spitz grows until the final battle between the two. The energy of this passage begins with urgency, yet grows slowly and decidedly. As the two dogs battle for supremacy, the music becomes aggressive and relentless, leading to Buck eventually finishing Spitz off.

“The Toil of Trace and Trail” follows chapter 5, in which Buck is sold to two inexperienced men and a spoiled woman. Under their ownership, the dogs begin to starve with many of them dying. As this happens, Buck's primitive instincts continue to grow and the opening fanfare sounds in measure 65 amid growing chaos. As the new owners push Buck to the brink of death, an experienced gold hunter steps in and stops the men from whipping Buck, who refuses to pull the sled over a thin patch. As the gold hunter fights with Buck's owners, Buck is freed before the rest of the team staggers on and eventually fall through the ice. The brutality of this encounter is depicted at measure 80, where Buck is near the brink of death before he is cut loose by John Thornton, who becomes his new master as his previous owners, their sled, and the dogs fall through the ice. All throughout this section, the fanfare from the opening continues to sound, calling Buck back to the wild.

The music finally reaches resolution at measure 99 — “For the Love of a Man.” Buck develops a strong affection for the man who saved his life. Thornton treats him with respect and kindness, and Buck in turn becomes extremely loyal and protective of his new master. Buck saves Thornton's life several times, and begins to have a conflict between his loyalty to Thornton (domestication) and his identity as a wild animal. This section is marked by heroic melodies and driving rhythms.

The final section (and chapter of the novel), “The Sounding of the Call,” returns to the opening fanfare. This is when Buck hears the call of a wolf and ventures out into the forest, eventually befriending the animal. He continues to struggle with his loyalty to Thornton and his instincts as a wild animal. Eventually, his ties to Thornton are broken when Thornton is attacked and killed by Yeehat Indians. He hears the sounding of the call yet again, and this time joins the wolf pack. Buck completes his transformation to a wild animal and succumbs to his primitive instincts. Similarly, the music completes its development, returns to the opening call and adds an element of dissonance to the final series of chords as Buck finally answers the call of the wild.

The Call of the Wild was commissioned by the Phillips Middle School Symphonic Band (Chapel Hill, North Carolina); Jane Cutchin, Director.



CALL OF THE WILD

BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

Into the Primitive ($\text{J} = 66$)

The musical score consists of ten staves of music. The first five staves represent woodwind instruments: Flutes (2 parts), Oboe, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinets (2 parts), and B♭ Bass Clarinet. The next four staves represent saxophones: E♭ Alto Saxophones (2 parts), B♭ Tenor Saxophone, E♭ Baritone Saxophone, and B♭ Trumpets (2 parts). The final three staves represent brass and percussion: F Horn, Trombones (2 parts), Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Mallet Percussion (Bells, Vibraphone, Chimes), Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Triangle), and Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal, Tom-toms, Tam-tam). The score includes dynamic markings such as p , f , and tr , and performance instructions like "stagger" and "breathe". The tempo is marked as $\text{J} = 66$. Measures 1 through 5 are shown, with measure 5 ending on a repeat sign.

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10

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

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

div.

6 7 8 9 10

Tam-tam **mp** **f**

Fls. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15

Cl. 1
2

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1
2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbns. 1
2

Bar./Eup.

Tuba

Tim.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

11 12 13 14 15

Sus. Cym. *mp*

[16] The Dominant Primordial Beast ($\text{J} = 144$)

Fls. 1
Fls. 2
Ob.
Bsn.
Cls. 1
Cls. 2
B. Cl.
A. Saxes 1
A. Saxes 2
T. Sax.
B. Sax.
Tpts. 1
Tpts. 2
Hn.
Tbns. 1
Tbns. 2
Bar./Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
Mlt. Perc.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

[16] The Dominant Primordial Beast ($\text{J} = 144$)

16 *f* 17 18 19

Fls. 1 2 Ob. Bsn.

Cl. 1 2 B. Cl. A. Saxes 1 2 T. Sax. B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2 Hn. Tbn. 1 2 Bar./ Euph. Tuba

Tim. Mlt. Perc. Perc. 1 Perc. 2

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

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Tim.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

mf

f

mp

32

Fls. 1 2 ff

Ob. ff

Bsn. ff

1 2 ff

Cls. ff

2 ff

B. Cl. ff

A. Saxes 1 2 ff

T. Sax. ff

B. Sax. ff

32

Tpts. ff

2 ff

Hn. ff

Tbns. 1 2 ff

Bar./ Euph. ff

Tuba ff

Tim.

Mlt. Perc. ff

Perc. 1 ff

Perc. 2 ff

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 Bar./Euph. Tuba Timp. Mlt. Perc. Perc. 1 Perc. 2

37 38 39 *mp* ff 41

43 The Toil of Trace and Trail

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

p

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

p

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

43 The Toil of Trace and Trail

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

p

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

p

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

p f

Perc. 2

p f

p mf

42 p mf 44 45 46

Fls. 1
Fls. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
Cls. 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1
A. Saxes 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
Tpts. 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1
Tbns. 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

47 48 49 50 51 52

p

p

p

53

Fls. 1
Fls. 2
Ob.
Bsn.
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
B. Cl.
A. Saxes 1
A. Saxes 2
T. Sax.
B. Sax.
Tpts. 1
Tpts. 2
Hn.
Tbns. 1
Tbns. 2
Bar./Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
Mlt. Perc.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

53

54

55

56

57

58

mf

61

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

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

59 60 f 61 62 63

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Tim.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Fls. 1 2 71

Ob.

Bsn. *f*

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl. *f*

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax. *f* 71

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1 *f*

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

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

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 Bar./ Euph. Tuba Timp. Mlt. Perc. Perc. 1 Perc. 2

87 88 89 90 91

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

99 For the Love of a Man

Fls. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn.

div.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

99 For the Love of a Man

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Sus. Cym.

fp — *ff*

f — *Cr. Cym.*

Fls. 1 2 *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2 *ff*

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1 2 *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1 2 8

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. Vibra. *ff*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

101 102 *mf* *ff* 104

Fls. 1 2 Ob. Bsn. Cls. 1 2 B. Cl. A. Saxes 1 2 T. Sax. B. Sax. Tpts. 1 2 Hn. Tbps. 1 2 Bar./Euph. Tuba Timp. Mlt. Perc. Perc. 1 Perc. 2

105 106 *mf* ff 108 T.T.

110

Fls. 1
Fls. 2
Ob.
Bsn.
1 Cls.
2 Cls.
B. Cl.
A. Saxes 1
A. Saxes 2
T. Sax.
B. Sax.

Tpts.
Hn.
Tbns. 1
Bar./Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
Mlt. Perc.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Cr. Cym.

110 IIII 112 113 *mp*

molto rit.

Fls. 1
Fls. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
Cls. 2

B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1
A. Saxes 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

This section shows the woodwind and brass parts. Measures 114-115 feature woodwind entries (Flutes 1, Flutes 2, Oboe, Bassoon) with eighth-note patterns. Measures 116-117 show brass entries (Trumpets 1, 2, Trombones 1, 2, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba) and timpani. Measure 117 includes dynamic markings *ff* and *molto rit.*

molto rit.

Tpts. 1
Tpts. 2

Hn.

Tbns. 1
Tbns. 2

Bar./Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

This section shows the brass and percussion parts. Measures 114-115 feature brass entries (Trumpets 1, 2, Trombones 1, 2, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba) and timpani. Measures 116-117 show more brass entries and timpani. A note in measure 117 specifies "play lower octave if available". Dynamic markings include *ff* and *molto rit.*

118 The Sounding of the Call ($\downarrow = 66$)
stagger breathe

Fls. 1
Fls. 2
Ob.
Bsn.

Cls. 1
Cls. 2
B. Cl.

A. Saxes 1
A. Saxes 2
T. Sax.
B. Sax.

118 The Sounding of the Call ($\downarrow = 66$)

Tpts. 1
Tpts. 2
Hn.
Tbns. 1
Tbns. 2
Bar./Euph.
Tuba

Timp.
Bells (and Vibra. if available)
Mlt. Perc.
Tri.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2

118 Tam-tam 119 120 121 122 123

Fls. 1
2 ff rit.
Ob. ff
Bsn. ff
Cls. 1
2 div. ff
B. Cl.
A. Saxes 1
2
T. Sax.
B. Sax. ff rit.
Tpts. 1
2 div.
Hn.
Tbns. 1
2
Bar./Euph.
Tuba ff
Timp.
Mlt. Perc.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2 Sus. Cym.
Tam-tam (l.v.) mp < ff mf < ff

