Young Band

Grade 2



The Spirit of an Eagle

Larry Clark

YPS73 INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score. 1 Flute 8 Oboe (Opt. Flute 2) 2 Clarinet 1 in Bb. 4 Clarinet 2 in Bb. 4 Bass Clarinet in Bb. 2 Alto Saxophone in Eb. 5 Tenor Saxophone in Bb. 2 Baritone Saxophone in Eb. 2 Trumpet 1 in Bb. 4 Trumpet 2 in Bb. 4 Horn in F 4 Trombone, Baritone, Bassoon 6 Baritone T.C. in Bb. 2 Tuba 3 Mallet Percussion 1 Bells Timpani 1
Timpani
Percussion 2

Program Notes

The Spirit of an Eagle was commissioned by the Charles C. Erwin Middle School Band in Salisbury, North Carolina directed by Sonya Ferguson. It was premiered in November of 2007 with the composer conducting.

The piece is a concert overture in standard ABA form. It was intended that the piece would depict the majestic beauty of the eagle. Parts of the composition portray the flight of the eagle while the slow middle section emulates the shear beauty of this great animal. It begins with an energetic and rhythmic fanfare that outlines the harmonic progressions used throughout the rest of the piece. This is followed by the bold main theme first stated by the trumpets. The main theme is then repeated with an echo effect and countermelody in the upper woodwinds. After a short transition the slow lyrical theme begins with a pulsing drone in the timpani and lower winds. The harmonic movement floats over this constant pedal point. This section should never be hurried; it should have a very relaxed feel. The slow section builds to climax with a sudden modulation before coming to another point of repose before returning to the main allegro theme. This time it is stated in a soaring manner over staccato eighth notes. The introductory material returns followed by a final full-band statement of the main theme and then a short coda based upon the opening fanfare to complete the work.

It has been my pleasure to have the opportunity to write this piece. I hope you and your students enjoy it and find it useful for your program.

-LARRY CLARK Lakeland, FL 2008

About the Composer

Larry Clark (b. 1963) is Vice President for Carl Fischer, LLC in New York. At Carl Fischer he serves as the editor and chief and coordinates all of Carl Fischer's publishing in all genres of music. Prior to this appointment he served as an Instrumental Music Editor for Warner Bros. Publications in Miami. His diverse background includes serving as the Director of Bands at Syracuse University and considerable public school teaching in the state of Florida.

Larry is well known as a composer and arranger of music for band and orchestra. His pieces have been performed internationally and appear on numerous contest/festival performance required music lists. He is an ASCAP award-winning composer, has over 150 publications in print and is in demand to write commissions for bands and orchestras across the country. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Florida State University and Masters Degrees in Conducting and Composition from James Madison University in Virginia.



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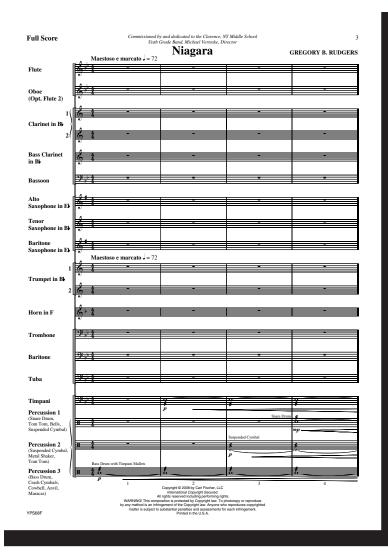














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ISBN 0-8258-6810-6

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