Concert Band

Grade 3



Spirits Bright

Gregory B. Rudgers

CPS75 INSTRUMENTATION

| Full Score1 |
|---------------------------------|
| Flute |
| Oboe |
| Clarinet 1 in Bb4 |
| Clarinet 2 in Bb4 |
| Clarinet 3 in Bb4 |
| Bass Clarinet in B ₂ |
| Bassoon |
| Alto Saxophone 1 in E |
| Alto Saxophone 2 in Eb |
| Tenor Saxophone in B |
| Baritone Saxophone in Eb |
| Trumpet 1 in B |
| Trumpet 2 in B |
| Trumpet 3 in B |
| Horn 1 in F |
| Horn 2 in F |
| Trombone 1 |
| Trombone 2 |
| Baritone T.C. in Bb |
| Baritone B.C |
| Tuba4 |
| Mallet Percussion |
| Bells, Vibraphone |
| Timpani |
| Percussion 1 |
| Triangle, Suspended Cymbal |
| Percussion 2 |
| Crash Cymbals, Sleigh Bells |

Program Notes

Spirits Bright was inspired by the thought that the holidays, while a time of joy and peace, may also be a time when people reflect on the past and acknowledge the passing of another year. The work is an expression of the nostalgia and wistful feelings we experience during the holidays: a time when we remember friends and family, both present and past. Spirits Bright is an evocation of the bittersweet warmth of a fire in the fireplace, chestnuts roasting, snow falling gently, and jingle bells.

In order to capture the reflective nature of the work, it is important to keep the tempo and dynamics expressive, yet under control in the opening measures. Strive for a truly gentle nature in the softer sections and perform the tutti sections with richness and warmth, emphasizing the lower and middle voices. It is not necessary to emphasize the *Jingle Bells* melodies when they occur, as the entire work is only suggestive of the familiar tune; allow those voices to emerge as a part of the overall texture. Indeed, the only time the melody should be dominant is in the last statement by the flutes and solo cornet. Be careful to ensure that each of the entrances in the last two measures is heard distinctively.

About the Composer

Greg Rudgers graduated from Ithaca College in 1970 and also holds degrees and advanced study from Elmira College, and Northwestern University respectively. He directed bands, orchestras, jazz bands, and marching bands in the public schools for many years and is currently on the adjunct faculty of Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, New York, where he teaches composition to Music Education masters degree candidates, and the Ithaca College School of Music in the Music Education Department. Mr. Rudgers is a sought-after guest conductor and clinician and has conducted honor bands and delivered clinics throughout the Northeast. He is a published author with articles in *The Music Educator's Journal, Teaching Music, The Instrumentalist, The School Music News,* and other state journals. He composes and arranges for concert band, wind ensemble, orchestra, string orchestra, and also writes solos and ensembles.



































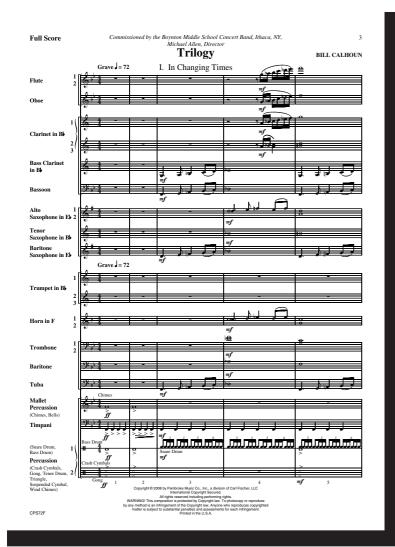














The Carl Fischer Performance Series for Band has five performance levels to provide you with a highly focused repertoire for your band. Each level has been carefully designed and graded, within specific guidelines, so that each piece in a level will work with your band when it achieves that level. Each level is also color coded for ease in finding the series that will be appropriate for your band, as it develops.

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.

Concert Performance Series

- Expanded instrumentation to 2 Flute, 3 Clarinet, 3 Trumpet, 2 Horn and 2 Trombone parts
- Expanded use of rhythms, ranges, keys, but technical demands are still carefully considered
- Generous cross cueing of exposed or solo parts
- Expanded percussion writing, within reason, for maturing students
- Careful selection of keys and degree of difficulty for advancing musicians