





T-Rex

(A Tone Poem for Band)

Joseph Compello

BPS50 INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score1
Flute8
Oboe (Opt. Flute 2)
Clarinet in B
Bass Clarinet in Bb2
Alto Saxophone in E
Tenor Saxophone in B
Baritone Saxophone in E>2
Trumpet in B
Horn in F
Trombone, Baritone B.C.,
Bassoon
Baritone T.C. in B
Tuba3
Mallet Percussion
Timpani
Percussion 1
Percussion 2

Program Notes

T-Rex (Tyrannosaurus Rex) is a miniature tone poem for a young band.

The story: The ominous sound of an oncoming storm (thundersheet) rumbles through the night in a prehistoric forest. The lumbering footsteps of a giant beast (m. 1, half notes in the bass line) cause the ground to tremble. It is T-Rex, Tyrannosaurus Rex, the Tyrant King (m. 3 trumpets, m. 11 bass line). It surveys its kingdom in a regal pose (m. 27 tutti). The storm begins (m. 41, staccato notes and thunder sheet). Tyrannosaurus Rex hones in on its prey (m. 43, bass line). There's no escape (m. 49 to end tutti).

Percussion: A sound effect for thunder is necessary. The internet contains much information on this subject. Just search "thundersheet."

- 1. If a real thundersheet is not available, a prepared bass drum may be used. The batter head should be loosened for the lowest possible sound. It can be placed on its side. Have the rolls played with two bass drum mallets or two felt mallets. If an extra bass drum for thunder is not available, omit the bass drum part in Percussion 1.
- 2. Synthesizers have certain sound effects which resemble thunder.
- 3. A polystyrene thundersheet is small and light enough for a young player.
- 4. Use a large sheet of aluminum available at home improvement stores.

There are two snare drum parts. One is played the standard way. The other is played with felt mallets, snares off. Two players should be used, but if necessary one player may play both drums with a stick in one hand and a mallet in the other.

Cymbal crashes should be played with crash cymbals, not a suspended cymbal. At mm. 18 and 53, timpani, bass and snare drums may replace the eight eighth notes with long rolls.

Instructive: Winds use only the first six notes of the Bb major scale. At m. 59, an optional Eb is in the horn part. At the discretion of the director, the repeat at m. 2 can be omitted. Young players may not be familiar with the sound of Eb against D (m. 3 bass line and trumpets). Devoting some rehearsal time to acquaint young players with this sound will assure them that they are playing the correct notes. Students should be able to execute a crescendo, and wind players must know staccato articulation. Balance is always important, particularly when playing forte.

Thank you for choosing this composition. I hope you and your students find it enjoyable, challenging and instructive.

Joseph Compello Glen Arm, Maryland, 2008

About the Composer

Joseph Compello, a native of Carbondale, Pennsylvania, holds degrees in music education from the Peabody Conservatory and Towson University. During his thirty-one year career as an instrumental music teacher in Maryland, he wrote numerous compositions for his students. In 1994, Carl Fischer began publishing many of these classroom-tested pieces including his debut publication Cadets on Parade, and the 1996 best-seller Rock to the Max, Mr. Sax. In 2003, Compello's journey from local band director to internationally published composer was chronicled in the prestigious Baltimore Sun. Now retired from teaching, Compello, continues to draw on his extensive background in music education to compose new music exclusively for Carl Fischer's Performance Series, which now contains eighty-five of his works.

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JOSEPH COMPELLO















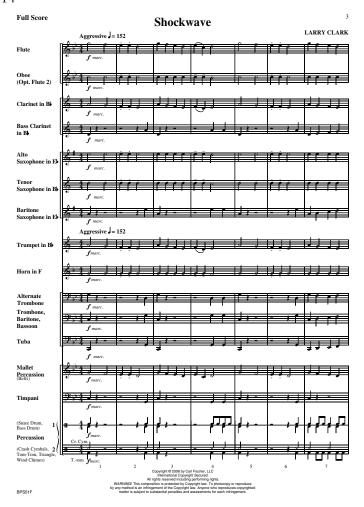


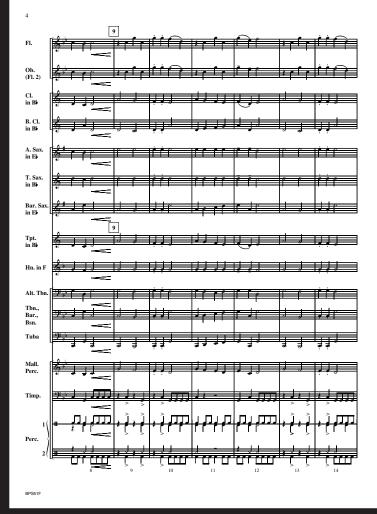


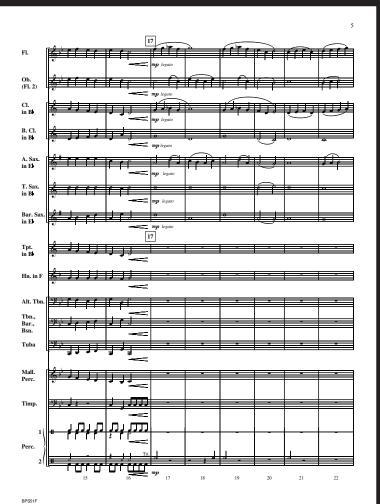








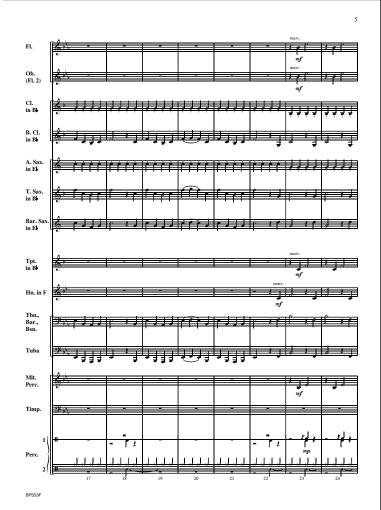


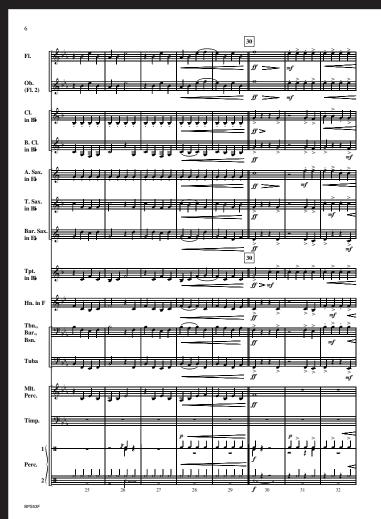


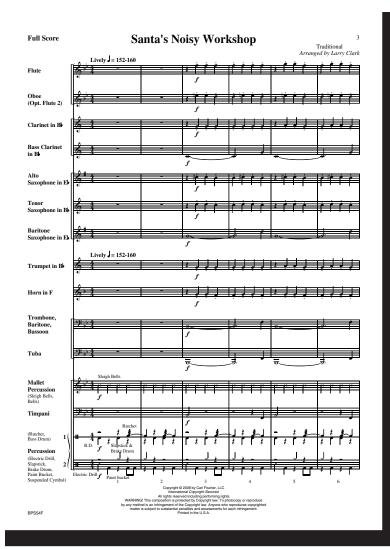














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