
McBeth:

Fanfare and Hymn

for Brass Ensemble

Grade 4

by Stephen Hill (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

Piccolo Trumpet
Trumpets 1-3
Flugelhorns 1-2
Horns in F 1-4
Trombones 1-3
Euphonium
Tuba

Timpani
Percussion - S.D., B.D. Tenor
Drum, Toms, Cymbals, Gong,
Xylophone, Vibraphone, Glockenspiel,
Chimes
Harp


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About the Work...

McBeth - Fanfare and Hymn: This piece was composed for the California High School (Whittier) combined Band and Orchestra to perform as the 2014 Graduation Recessional. My colleague, Doug Nordquist, director of Bands at California High School, was informed that the Administration wanted to have a formal Recessional for the Graduation Ceremonies. Doug and I discussed several possible pieces in the established Band repertoire. With three weeks to go before Graduation, I took out my sketchbook where I write down musical themes and motifs and started to compose a recessional sketch. I sent the short sketch to Doug, and he immediately responded with his approval and asked if I could finish it in time. I completed the piece during two weekends, which then left one week for the Band and Orchestra to rehearse it for the upcoming Graduation. My cherished memory of the evening took place on the way back to the band room after the Graduation Ceremony. Walking near some of the students in the percussion section, I could overhear a few of them humming the “Hymn” tune. I consider having members of the percussion section humming music I had composed a very cool honor indeed.

The piece begins with a short fanfare that moves into a lyrical hymn tune. The second tune propels the work forward, followed by a brief percussion break. The percussion break gives the members in that section, (the ones who usually end up standing around during Pomp and Circumstance) a chance to play something as they might find in a “Drum-line”. The piece returns to the beginning fanfare with a restatement of both tunes and eventually ending with a massive chordal statement that builds from the lower to the upper instruments in a timbre pyramid.

The title, McBeth, is a tribute to my composition teacher, Dr. W. Francis McBeth. It was at Ouachita Baptist University that I received the personal attention of Dr. McBeth. He showed genuine interest in both my compositions for his class and in me. One memory took place in the hallway while I was on my way to class. Dr. McBeth came up to me and said, “Stephen, I was thinking about your piece last night, and I have an idea for it.” I was encouraged that he was thinking about my piece outside of class. He was a very kind teacher and friend. Being from California and going to school in Arkansas, I did not go home on weekends, so Dr. McBeth would often invite me to his house to visit with him. We would talk not just about music, but faith in God, purpose in life, and also about a love for fishing. We stayed in touch for over thirty years until his passing in 2012.

Website Audio - <https://www.stephenhillcomposer.com/>

SoundCloud - <https://soundcloud.com/sarah-tim-music/mcbeth-a-celebratory-fanfare-southern-california-brass-consortium>

This Brass Ensemble and Percussion setting was requested by Hector Salazar, Conductor of the Southern California Brass Consortium. www.socalbrass.org YouTube performance https://youtu.be/q_e54rTjuJA

About the Composer...

Stephen Hill (b.1958) was born and raised in Southern California. He studied at Cerritos College (1976-77) with composer Philip Westin, who was a student of Roy Harris and Ingolf Dahl. He also studied at Ouachita Baptist University (1978-80), in Arkadelphia, Arkansas with composer W. Francis McBeth, who was a student of Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, and Howard Hanson. He did his graduate work at California State University, Los Angeles (1980-84) where he studied with composers Byong Kon Kim, and William Hill.

Stephen Hill composes for the simple joy of it. He writes for Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Chorus, Piano, and Solo Instrumental works. He self-publishes his music through SARAHTIM Music Publishing, named for his daughter Sarah and his son Tim.

He taught the Band and Orchestra classes for over 37 years. The last 25 years were with the K-8th Band and Orchestra classes at the Maybrook Campus of Whittier Christian Schools. He currently teaches privately and directs the Orchestra at California High School in Whittier, Ca.

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“Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:7-8 NIV)

Score for McBeth: Fanfare and Hymn, page 2. The score includes parts for Picc. Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Tpt. 4, Flug. 5, Flug. 6, Hn. 1, Hn. 2, Hn. 3, Hn. 4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3, B. Tbn. 4, Euph. 1, Tba., Timp., S. D. B.D., Tom-t., Perc., Vibes, Xyl., and Glock. The score is marked with a large 'PRELUSAL SCORE' watermark. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (sfz, ff, mf, mp, pp, f), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions (choke, tr). The score is divided into measures 6 through 12, with a section marker 'A' at the end of measure 12.

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

PERUSAL SCORE

(2nd time only mts. 19-24)

Picc. Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Flug. 5

Flug. 6

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

B. Tbn. 4

Euph. 1

Tba.

Timp.

S. D.
B.D.

Tom-t.

Perc.

Xyl.

Glock.

Glock.

f

mf

mp

pp

mp

mf

pp

pp

pp

pp

mp

mf

B

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Both times

Picc. Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Flug. 5

Flug. 6

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

B. Tbn. 4

Euph. 1

Tba.

Timp.

S. D.
B.D.

Tom-t.

Perc.

Xyl.

Glock.

Muted

Muted

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mp *mf*

Vibes

mf *f*

mf

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

C

Picc. Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Flug. 5

Flug. 6

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

B. Tbn. 4

Euph. 1

Tba.

Timp.

S. D.
B.D.

Tom-t.

Perc.

Vib.

Glock.

C

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

PERCUSSION

DRUMS

With Flair $\text{♩} = 120$

36 **37** **38** **39** **40** **41**