Eighth Note Publications

The Last Leaf

Jeff Smallman

This is an adaptation of an original choral work inspired by French poet Théophile Gautier's work La Derniere Feuille. A stunning example of mood and harmony, this piece for brass choir evokes the sadness and hopelessness expressed in the poem. The opening line of Gautier's poem can be translated as "In the bleak and blighted forest," and is symbolized by the open fifths heard in the beginning measures of the piece. Only toward the end, is there a reconciliation of the emotions already expressed with a faint hope and peace in the poet's mind.

PARTS:

Bb Trumpet 1 Bb Trumpet 2

F Horn 1

F Horn 2

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Tuba

PREVIEW ONLY

Jeff Smallman began writing music at a very young age. He attended the University of Western Ontario and graduated with a degree in Theory and Composition. Mr. Smallman has written for a wide variety of groups, ranging from solo instruments to full orchestra and covering a range of styles. This variety of styles has led people to compare his music to such composers as Bach, Mozart, Ravel, Mahler, Poulenc, Ibert and Shostakovich.

In 1991 Mr. Smallman was a finalist in the Search for New Music competition hosted by the Canadian Band Association. The work he submitted was his concert band piece Spirit of Adventure which is also available through Eighth Note Publications.

Mr. Smallman has been commissioned to write many works. The numerous pieces he has written for schools, churches and individuals include works for concert band, solo flute, clarinet choir, saxophone quartet and over 20 pieces for various size choirs. His trumpet sextet Fanfare for Prince Henry was written for and accepted by the Prince and Princess of Wales in 1984. Performances of Mr. Smallman's compositions have been given throughout Canada, the United States and China and Hungary. Currently, Mr. Smallman is an organist and choir director at St. Martin-in-the-Fields Anglican Church in Southwestern Ontario where he has held that position for 12 years.

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