Adrian Bourgeois was born and raised in Saskatchewan, Canada. He started playing the trumpet at the age of 8. He attended the University of Saskatchewan where he received a Bachelor of Music Education. After completing his degree, he started teaching in Melfort at Melfort and Unit Comprehensive Collegiate (MUCC).

Mr. Bourgeois is an active member of the Saskatchewan band community conducting the North East Community Band as well as the current Vice-President of the Saskatchewan Band Association. Every summer he appears as a trumpet clinician at band camps, and works as a beginner band clinician throughout the province. Adrian currently plays his trumpet with the Millennium Swing Orchestra located in Prince Albert.

Over the years, I have had many unique and interesting students come through the band program at MUCC. In 2003, a student by the name of Anne, who was a percussionist, asked if she could play a unique song for her grade 12 year in the local band festival. Anne was a very energetic person and a strong percussionist. The first question I asked her was; “How about a piece for six timpani?”

Anne got a gleam in her eye and a huge smile. That sealed the deal. Because the piece is a solo, I thought the title Soliloquy for Anne was the perfect fit. Anne performed the song for the local festival and played it extremely well. She won an award for her excellent performance.

Soliloquy for Anne was originally written for six timpani. Knowing not many schools or band program have access to six timpani, two tom-toms could be used in place of the upper two drums. If you so wish, six tom-toms could be used. This will not create the same effect as six timpani, but the substitution would work. Having the performer use a medium-hard mallet will help keep the crisp sound required for the song. The most important thing is to have fun with the piece.

The opening of Soliloquy for Anne needs to have a soft touch. It is to have a dark sound and feel to it. This sound is then taken over by the energetic section. The tempo markings and dynamics are quite specific. When you are performing the song, try to stay as close to the markings as possible. All of the drums should be dampened as soon as the last notes are played.

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