

Blessed

Ryan Meeboer (b. 1978)

PREVIEW ONLY

Flute - 8
Oboe - 2
Bb Clarinet 1 - 4
Bb Clarinet 2 - 4
Bb Bass Clarinet - 2
Eb Alto Saxophone - 4
Bb Tenor Saxophone - 2
Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1
Bb Trumpet 1 - 3
Bb Trumpet 2 - 3
F Horn - 2
Trombone, Bassoon - 4
Baritone - 2
Baritone Treble Clef - 1
Tuba - 2
String Bass - 1
Bells - 1
Triangle, Wind Chimes,
Suspended Cymbal - 2

EIGHTH NOTE PUBLICATIONS

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Blessed is a beautiful lyrical piece that uses a chorale style accompaniment to allow the focus to be solely on the melody. Written using the ABA form, the song's simple stylistic features allow the ensemble to spend more time concentrating on learning the fundamentals of performing lyrical music: breath support, long smooth phrases, ensemble balance, and clear tone production.

Throughout the piece, there are many measures (such as measures 8 or 12), where the entire ensemble will be tempted to take a break together. The purpose of the pick up note at the end of these measures is to help carry the music through the bar as other ensemble members have the opportunity to breathe. A similar example of this occurs in measure 44, where the tuba plays a run of eighth notes to fill in the end of the phrase. In measures such as these, be sure the ensemble breathes accordingly, in order to keep the continuous flow in the music.

Another challenge for performers to work on would be to avoid breaking the sound at the end of crescendo. Often in this piece, these occur at the end of a phrase, where it is common for beginning players to breathe. The purpose of many of these dynamic changes is for dramatic flare, and a sudden silence at the end of the crescendo can take away from that effect. Be sure to spend some time looking for other opportunities to breathe to help avoid this from happening.

Two other important features to note are the use of various accidentals throughout the piece and the key change that occurs at measure 37. These are both a great learning opportunity for performers ready to move into more challenging music.

Ryan Meeboer is a music educator, who obtained his degree through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. As a composer, he has written and arranged many pieces for concert band, jazz band, and small ensembles. His young band piece, *Last Voyage of the Queen Anne's Revenge*, has been well received by performers, educators, and audiences, and his pieces are starting to be found on festival and contest lists. As a performer, he has had experience in several groups, including concert and stage bands, chamber choir, vocal jazz ensemble, acoustic duets, and the Hamilton based swing group, "The Main Swing Connection".

Ryan began studying music at the age of seven through private guitar lessons. During his years in elementary and secondary school, he gained experience in several families of instruments. Focusing on music education and theory (including composition and orchestration), he attended McMaster University to achieve his honours degree in music. Ryan is currently a teacher for the Halton District School Board in Ontario, where he continues to compose and arrange.

Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.

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Concert Band

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BLESSED

Ryan Meeboer

Gracefully $\text{♩} = 76$ ² ³ *rit.* ⁴ a Tempo ⁶

Flute

Oboe

B \flat Clarinet 1

B \flat Clarinet 2

Bass Clarinet

E \flat Alto Saxophone

B \flat Tenor Saxophone

E \flat Baritone Saxophone

B \flat Trumpet 1

B \flat Trumpet 2

F Horn

Trombone

Bassoon

Baritone

Tuba

Bells

Triangle

Wind Chimes

Suspended Cymbal

PREVIEW ONLY

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn
Bsn

Bari

Tuba

Bells

Tri.
W.C.
S.C.

p

PREVIEW ONLY

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn
Bsn

Bari

Tuba

Bells

Tri.
W.C.
S.C.

PREVIEW ONLY

Susp. Cym.
w/ mallets

p

21 Slightly More Motion ♩ = 80 22 23 24 25 26 27

Fl

Ob

Cl 1 *mp*

Cl 2 *mp*

B Cl *mp*

A Sax *mp*

T Sax *mf*

B Sax *mp*

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn Bsn *mf*

Bari *mf*

Tuba *mp*

Bells *mp*

Tri.
W.C.
S.C. *mf*

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

Fl *mp* *mf*

Ob *mp* *mf*

Cl 1 *mf*

Cl 2 *mf*

B Cl *mf*

A Sax *mf*

T Sax

B Sax *mf*

Tpt 1 *mp* *mf*

Tpt 2 *mp* *mf*

Hn *mf*

Trbn Bsn

Bari

Tuba *mf*

Bells *mf*

Tri.
W.C.
S.C.

PREVIEW ONLY

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

rit.

Tempo I ♩ = 76

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn
Bsn

Bari

Tuba

Bells

Tri.
W.C.
S.C.

p

mp

dampen

