

The Ash Grove

For Concert Band, Grade 2-2.5
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 - Full Score | 4 - Bb Trumpet 1 |
| 8 - Flute | 4 - Bb Trumpet 2 |
| 2 - Oboe | 6 - F Horn |
| 2 - Bassoon | 3 - Trombone 1 |
| 5 - Bb Clarinet 1 | 3 - Trombone 2 |
| 5 - Bb Clarinet 2 | 4 - Euphonium B. C. |
| 2 - Bb Bass Clarinet | 2 - Euphonium T. C. |
| 8 - Eb Alto Saxophone | 4 - Tuba |
| 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone | |
-
- | |
|--|
| 2 - Bells |
| 2 - Vibraphone |
| 2 - Chimes |
| 2 - Timpani |
| 2 - Percussion 1: Ride Cymbal/Snare Drum |
| 2 - Percussion 2: Triangle/Bass Drum/Sleigh Bells |
| 2 - Percussion 3: Suspended Cymbal/Finger Cymbals/Crash Cymbals/Wind Chimes/Tambourine |

Full Set - \$70.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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The Ash Grove

By Randall D. Standridge

Program Notes

I first fell in love with **The Ash Grove** years ago when I played the first movement of *Little English Suite* by Leroy Jackson. The moment I heard the tune—simple, elegant, and deeply lyrical—I was hooked. It's one of those melodies that feels like it's always been with you, even if you're hearing it for the first time.

Now, I know what some of you might be thinking: *This piece has been arranged dozens of times already... so why do another one?* Fair question.

For me, it came down to wanting to bring something personal to this beautiful melody—something that reflects my own voice as a composer and educator. I wanted to preserve the emotional warmth of the original tune while giving each section of the ensemble a moment to carry it. I also wanted to create a lyrical setting that included meaningful, expressive parts for the percussion section—not just background texture but an essential part of the story. Finally, I wanted the piece to explore the full emotional range of the melody: from sweetness and nostalgia to sorrow and, ultimately, a quiet sense of triumph. All of this is set in a flowing, fast 3/4 meter to keep the music moving and alive.

The piece opens with a clarinet solo, setting the tone with warmth and grace. From there, the melody is passed from voice to voice, supported by lush harmonies and carefully crafted textures. The percussion writing helps shape the emotional contour of the piece, bringing depth and energy to the ensemble's sound.

The Ash Grove was commissioned by the Mary D. Bradford High School Band of Kenosha, Wisconsin, and their director, Karl C. Mueller, in celebration of the band's 100th anniversary. I was honored to be part of such a meaningful milestone. Whether this is your hundredth time hearing this melody or the very first, I hope it brings as much joy to your ensemble and audience as it brought to me.

Peace, Love, and Music – Randy Standy

Rehearsal suggestions

- The tempo of this work is critical to its character. Having said that, the temptation with this work will be to play it slower than written. Please, don't do this. It robs the music of its flow and life. Trust me on this. I wrote it.
- Dynamics should be noticeable and taken to extremes.
- Percussion should be on the higher end of dynamic balance. Do not hide them.
- While the solo is written for clarinet, it is also cued in Alto Saxophone. Please use your strongest soloist in this regard.

About the Composer



Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor of Music Education from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied composition with Dr. Tom O'Connor before returning to Arkansas State University to earn his Master's in Music Composition, studying with Dr. Tom O'Connor and Dr. Tim Crist. In 2001, he began his tenure as Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas. He left this post in 2013 to pursue a career as a full-time composer and marching arts designer.

Mr. Standridge's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected for J.W. Pepper's editor's choice. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* have been included in the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band" series. He has had numerous works performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. The Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble premiered his work *Art(isms)* at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work *Stonewall: 1969* was premiered at the National LGBA conference in 2019. His *Symphony no.1: A Ghost Story* was premiered in 2023. In addition, Mr. Standridge's "unBroken Project," a musical initiative about mental health, has received widespread acclaim for its musical content and for providing opportunities to normalize discussions about mental health for music students and audiences.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the owner and editor of Randall Standridge Music, LLC and Grand Mesa Marching. He is in demand as an arranger/designer for the marching arts. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with his husband, Steven, and their very, very

spoiled pets. For more information about Mr. Standridge, visit his website at: www.randallstandridge.com

Score
Grade 2-2.5
Duration: 4:00

The Ash Grove

Traditional Welsh Folk Song
arr Randall D. Standridge
(ASCAP)

With nostalgia ♩=120

9

Flute

Oboe (Opt. Fl.2)

Bassoon

B♭ Clarinet 1

B♭ Clarinet 2

B♭ Bass Clarinet

E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpet 1

B♭ Trumpet 2

Horn in F

Trombone 1-2

Euphonium

Tuba

Bells

Vibraphone

Chimes

Timpani

Percussion 1
Ride Cymbal/
Snare Drum

Percussion 2
Triangle/
Bass Drum/
Sleigh Bells

Percussion 3
Suspended Cymbal/
Finger Cymbals
Crash Cymbals/
Wind Chimes/
Tambourine

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

21 Slightly Faster ♩=128

[illegible]

The Ash Grove

3

25

33

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B. Cl. 1

B. Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mf

mf

mp

mp

Bassoon

mp

mf

mf

Finger Cymbals

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36

41

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Sus. Cym.

37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

p *mf* *mp*

The Ash Grove

49

56

Fl. *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

B. Cl. 1 *mf* *f* All

B. Cl. 2 *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mf* *f*

A. Sx. *f*

T. Sx. *mf* *f*

B. Sx. *mf* *f*

B. Tpt. 1 *f*

B. Tpt. 2 *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. 1-2 *mf* *f* a2

Euph. *mf* *f*

Tuba *mf* *f*

Bls. *mf* *f*

Vb. *mf* *f*

Ch. *f*

Timp. *mf* *f*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 Bass Drum *p* *f*

Perc. 3 *mf* *f* Crash Cymbals *p*

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59

64 *a tempo**rit.*

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *p* *mf*

B. Cl. 1 *p* *mf*

B. Cl. 2 *p* *mf* Div.

B. Cl. *p*

A. Sx. *p* *mf* *mp*

T. Sx. *p* Clarinet

B. Sx. *p* *mp*

B. Tpt. 1 *mf*

B. Tpt. 2 *mf*

Hn. *p*

Tbn. 1-2 *p*

Euph. *p*

Tuba *p* Div. *mp*

Bls. *mf* Div.

Vb. *mf*

Ch. *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf* *p* Sleigh Bells (shake gently)

Perc. 3 *mf* Finger Cymbals *p* Sus. Cym.

60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71

Suddenly Slower rit. $\text{♩}=112$

The Ash Grove

7

78 Flowing $\text{♩}=120$

Fl. *pp* *p* *Div.*

Ob. *pp* *p* *Div.*

Bsn. *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *pp* *mf*

B♭ Cl. 2 *pp* *mf*

B. Cl. *mf* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

A. Sx. *pp* *p* *p* *mp*

T. Sx. *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

B. Sx. *mf* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mf* *p* *mp*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *Div.* *pp* *p* *mp*

Hn. *mf* *pp* *p*

Tbn. 1-2 *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Euph. *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Tuba *mf* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

Bls. *p* *mp*

Vb. *mf*

Ch. *mf*

Timp. *pp* *p* *mp*

Perc. 1 *Ride Cym.* *mf*

Perc. 2 *Bass Drum* *pp* *p* *pp* *mp*

Perc. 3 *Wind Chimes* *mf* *p* *mp*

72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81

82

Div.

90

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1 *mp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *mp*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. 1-2 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba

Bls. *mp*

Vb. *mp*

Ch. *mf*

Timp. *pp*

Perc. 1 *pp*

Perc. 2 *pp*

Perc. 3 *p* *mf*

82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91

9

98 Slightly Faster ♩=128

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

bn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101

This page of a musical score is for a symphony orchestra. It contains staves for the following instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 (B♭ Cl. 1), Clarinet 2 (B♭ Cl. 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Saxophone (A. Sx.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.), Trumpet 1 (B♭ Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (B♭ Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone 1-2 (Tbn. 1-2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Bells (Bls.), Vibraphone (Vb.), Chimes (Ch.), Timpani (Timp.), Snare Drum, Triangle, and Wind Chimes. The score is written in 4/4 time and features various musical notations, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano). The page is numbered 100 at the top center.

11

112

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121

The Ash Grove

12

122 Grand $\text{♩} = 112$ *rit.*

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

122

123

124

125

126

127

128

129

130 Moving forward ♩=120**138** *a tempo**rit.*

Fl. *ff* *Div.* *mp*

Ob. *ff* *mp*

Bsn. *ff* *p* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *ff* *p* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *ff* *p* *mp*

B. Cl. *ff* *p*

A. Sx. *ff* *p* *mp*

T. Sx. *ff* *p* *mp*

B. Sx. *ff* *p*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *ff* *mf* *p*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *ff* *p*

Hn. *ff* *p*

Tbn. 1-2 *ff* *a2* *p*

Euph. *ff* *p*

Tuba *ff* *p*

Bls. *ff* *mp*

Vb. *ff*

Ch. *ff* *f*

Timp. *ff* *mf*

Perc. 1 *ff* *fp* *f*

Perc. 2 *ff* *p* *f* *mf*

Perc. 3 *ff* *mf* *mf* *Finger Cymbals*

130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139

150

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Ride Cym.

Triangle

Finger Cymbals

Sus. Cym.

140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151

15

a tempo

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162