

The Clapping Song

For Concert Band, Grade 3
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Full Score | 4 - Bb Trumpet 1 |
| 8 - Flute | 4 - Bb Trumpet 2 |
| 2 - Oboe | 4 - 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. |
| 6 - Eb Alto Saxophone | 4 - Tuba |
| 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone | |
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- 2 - Bells
 - 2 - Marimba
 - 2 - Timpani
 - 2 - Percussion 1: Snare Drum/Tambourine
 - 2 - Percussion 2: Bass Drum
 - 2 - Percussion 3: Ride Cymbal/Sus. Cymbal (share with P5)/Crash Cym./China Cym.
 - 2 - Percussion 4: Triangle/Tam-Tam/Splash Cymbal (share with P5)/Wind Chimes
 - 2 - Percussion 5: Log Drum/Splash Cymbal/Suspended Cymbal/Vibraslap

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GRADE .5 - 1.5

Mechanical Monsters (.5)
Spring (1)
Beginners Rock (1)
Groovy-8 (1)
The Dragon Lord (1.5)
The Lake of Sorrows (1.5)
Santa the Barbarian (1.5)
A Festival of Carols (1.5)
Starfire Fanfare (1.5)
Fanfare for the 16th Empire (1.5)
Circuit Breaker (1.5)

GRADE 2 - 2.5

Dominion (2)
Creer (2)
Spero (2)
Hillside March (2)
Earthdawn (2.5)
Shadow Cove March (2.5)

GRADE 3 - 3.5

Affirmation (3)
...music speaks (3)
On an Olde English Carol (3)
Gallowglass (3)
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (3.5)

GRADE 4

Utopia (4)
Providence (4)
Havana Nights (4)
Vanishing Point (4)
Deus Ex Machina (4.5)
The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse
(4.5)

GRADE 5

Stonewall: 1969 (5)
unBroken (5)

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLES

Fur Elise (Grade 2)

The Clapping Song

By Randall D. Standridge

Program Notes

The most common question I get in my career is "Where do you get your ideas?" The answers I provide are undoubtedly disappointing to the person who asked as I am one of the least romantic composers people will ever meet. They always seem to expect some big, larger story. Something to the effect of "I was walking down the road, and I saw a deer. We looked at each other and his gaze made me question the nature of my existence. I tried to capture the deer and that morning in this work." Blah, Blah, Blah, Yak, Yak, Yak.

For me, the bottom line is that music is just a collection of sounds. Can they express a larger story or concept? Sure, but that doesn't change the fact that it is the designed sounds across time that create this art form. And sometimes, for the very best composers, I believe, that is enough. The way the sounds interact and the resultant aesthetic experience is the ultimate point to any piece of music regardless of its larger meaning. If it doesn't work without its larger story, then, in my opinion, it just doesn't work.

The Clapping Song has no larger story. It simply started off with me sitting at my desk and clapping the rhythm which begins the work. I liked the way it sounded and so I continued adding elements and writing further into it. The piece grew and grew and went in some unexpected directions; the final result is part symphonic, part tribal, part boot-scootin' country, and just a touch of blues.

Due to its lack of story and lack of central thematic style, the hardest part was coming up with a title. When I first saved it on my computer, I saved it as *The Clapping Song*. I tried to think of several others. A few other contenders were: *Rhythmatic*, *Rhythm Dance*, and *What is This?* After consideration, I decided I liked the original file name the best, and it just stuck.

This work was commissioned by the Temecula Middle School Band and their director, Mr. Ivan Aviles. I wish to thank them for trusting me with this project and for allowing me to hang out in some of the weirder parts of my imagination. Thank you for allowing me to be an artist.

Rehearsal Suggestions

-The tempo of this work is critical to its character. When planning your preparation, make sure to allow time for proper technical development to achieve the written tempos, lest the work come off as "boring."

-Several of the rhythmic and intervallic challenges repeat frequently. Draw your students' attention to this to diminish the intimidation they may feel about some of these elements.

-Dynamics should be noticeable and taken to extremes.

-The percussion should be on the slightly louder side of the balance spectrum. Please do not "hide" them. However, they should not cover the ensemble.

-Several percussion changes happen very quickly. Be sure that the mallets and trap tables are well planned out to allow for quick changes.

-The clapping should be very precise and treated as much like a legitimate instrument as anything else. Yes, it's fun, but it needs to be exact. For the best sound, I'd recommend fingers and the upper palm of one hand struck in the center of the palm of the opposite hand.

-If you feel like "choreographing" the hands a bit, please do! The audience will appreciate it.

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. From 2001 to 2013, he served as the Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas.

Mr. Standridge is currently published by Grand Mesa Music, Alfred Music, FJH Music, Wingert-Jones Music, BandWorks Publications, Twin Towers Music, and Northeastern Music Publications. Mr. Standridge has had several of his pieces performed internationally, and has had numerous works selected to the J.W. Pepper's Editor's Choice and Bandworld Top 100 lists. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* also published are included in *Teaching Music through Performance in Band* series. He has had several works performed at the Midwest Music Clinic in Chicago, IL. His work *Art(isms)* was premiered by the Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Mr. Standridge is also a contributing composer for Alfred Music's *Sound Innovations: Ensemble Development* series. His music is gaining recognition as worthwhile literature for concert festivals and performances across the United States and internationally.



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Concert work: The Clapping Song (Standard edition, RSM C046)

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The Clapping Song - Score

The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet in B-flat (B. Cl. 1 & 2), Clarinet in C (C. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), and Baritone Saxophone (B. Sx.). The brass section includes Trumpets (B. Tpt. 1 & 2), Horns (Hn.), Trombones (Tbn. 1 & 2), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The percussion section includes Bells (Hard Acrylic Mallets), Maracas (Mrb.), Timpani (Timp.), and three Percussion parts (Perc. 1, 2, 3). The score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the brass and percussion provide a steady accompaniment. The percussion parts include a maraca pattern, a timpani roll, and a suspended cymbal.

The Clapping Song - Score

13 Play

The score is for a 13-measure section of 'The Clapping Song'. It features a variety of instruments. The Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (Bsn.) parts begin with a melodic line marked *mf*. The Oboe (Ob.), Clarinets (B. Cl. 1, B. Cl. 2, B. Cl.), Saxophones (A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx.), Trumpets (B. Tpt. 1, B. Tpt. 2), Trombones (Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba parts enter in the fourth measure with a rhythmic pattern marked *mf*. The Bells (Bls.) play a steady accompaniment. The Maracas (Mrb.) and Timpani (Timp.) provide a consistent rhythmic foundation. The Percussion (Perc. 1, 2, 3) parts are also present, with Perc. 2 and Perc. 3 having specific rhythmic patterns marked *mf*. The score concludes with a 'Play' instruction in the final measure.

The Clapping Song - Score

23

The musical score for 'The Clapping Song' begins at measure 23. The instrumentation includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets in Bb (B. Cl. 1), Clarinets in B (B. Cl. 2), Clarinet in A (A. Cl.), Saxophones in Tenor (T. Sax.) and Baritone (B. Sax.), Trumpets in Bb (B. Tpt. 1, 2), Trombones in Bb (Tbn. 1, 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Blaise (Bls.), Maracas (Mrb.), Timpani (Timp.), and Percussion (Perc. 1, 2, 3). The score features various dynamics such as *mf* and *Play*. The percussion parts include a Tambourine in Perc. 1. The score is written in a key signature of two flats and a common time signature.

The Clapping Song - Score

The score is arranged for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flute (Fl.):** Features a melodic line with grace notes and slurs.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Provides harmonic support with a similar melodic line to the flute.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes.
- Clarinet 1 (B. Cl. 1) and Clarinet 2 (B. Cl. 2):** Both parts are mostly rests, indicating they are not active in this section.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes.
- Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.) and Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.):** Both parts are mostly rests.
- Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes.
- Trumpets (B. Tpt. 1 & 2):** Play a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *mf*.
- Horn (Hn.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes.
- Trombones (Tbn. 1 & 2):** Play a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *mf*.
- Euphonium (Euph.) and Tuba:** Play a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *mf*.
- Blas. (Bassoon) and Mrb. (Mellophone):** Both parts are mostly rests.
- Timp. (Timpani):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *mf*.
- Perc. 1 (Snare Drum):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *mf*.
- Perc. 2 (Cymbal):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *mf*.
- Perc. 3 (Tambourine):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *mf*.

The Clapping Song - Score

32

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. It includes parts for:

- Flute (Fl.)
- Oboe (Ob.)
- Bassoon (Bsn.)
- Bass Clarinet 1 (B. Cl. 1)
- Bass Clarinet 2 (B. Cl. 2)
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.)
- Alto 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 (Tbn. 1)
- Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2)
- Euphonium (Euph.)
- Tuba
- Bass (Bls.)
- Maracas (Mrb.)
- Timpani (Timp.)
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1)
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2)
- Percussion 3 (Perc. 3)

Dynamic markings such as *mf* and *f* are used throughout the score. The percussion parts include specific instructions for 'Ride Cym. Bell'.

The Clapping Song - Score

41

The musical score for page 7, measures 41-44, features the following parts and dynamics:

- Fl.:** *fp* (measures 41-43), *p* (measure 44)
- Ob.:** *fp* (measures 41-43), *p* (measure 44)
- Bsn.:** *fp* (measures 41-43), *p* (measure 44)
- B. Cl. 1 & 2:** *fp* (measures 41-43), *p* (measure 44)
- B. Cl.:** *fp* (measures 41-43), *p* (measure 44)
- A. Sx.:** *mp* (measures 41-43), *mf* (measure 44)
- T. Sx.:** *fp* (measures 41-43), *mf* (measure 44)
- B. Sx.:** *fp* (measures 41-43), *p* (measure 44)
- B. Tpt. 1 & 2:** *p* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Hn.:** *mp* (measures 41-43), *mf* (measure 44)
- Tbn. 1 & 2:** *p* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Euph.:** *p* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Tuba:** *p* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Bls.:** *p* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Mrb.:** *mf* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Timp.:** *mf* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Perc. 1:** *p* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)
- Perc. 2:** *mp* (measures 41-43), *mf* (measure 44)
- Perc. 3:** *Play* (measures 41-43), *Play* (measure 44)

The Clapping Song - Score

45

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Fl. (Flute)
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Bsn. (Bassoon)
- B. Cl. 1 (Bass Clarinet 1)
- B. Cl. 2 (Bass Clarinet 2)
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone)
- T. Sx. (Tenor Saxophone)
- B. Sx. (Baritone Saxophone)
- B. Tpt. 1 (Bass Trumpet 1)
- B. Tpt. 2 (Bass Trumpet 2)
- Hn. (Horn)
- Tbn. 1 (Tenor Trombone 1)
- Tbn. 2 (Tenor Trombone 2)
- Euph. (Euphonium)
- Tuba
- Bls. (Bass Drum)
- Mrb. (Maracas)
- Timp. (Timpani)
- Perc. 1 (Percussion 1)
- Perc. 2 (Percussion 2)
- Perc. 3 (Percussion 3)

The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte), and articulation marks like accents and slurs. The percussion parts include specific instructions for 'Crash Cym.' (Crash Cymbal).

The Clapping Song - Score

53

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

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Mrb.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

p

mf

sfz

Sus. Cym.

Div.

Gliss.

The Clapping Song - Score

Div.

The score is arranged for a full orchestra and vocal soloist. The instruments include Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets in Bb (B. Cl. 1, 2), Clarinet in C (C. Cl.), Saxophones (A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx.), Trumpets (B. Tpt. 1, 2), Horns (Hn.), Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Bassoon (Bls.), Maracas (Mrb.), Timpani (Timp.), and three Percussion parts (Perc. 1, 2, 3). The score is divided into measures, with dynamic markings such as *mf*, *p*, and *f* indicating volume. The percussion parts include Ride Cym, Bell, and other rhythmic elements. The vocal part (Vocal) is marked with a 'Div.' (Divisi) instruction.

The Clapping Song - Score

61

Fl. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Ob. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Bsn. *p* *cresc.* *f*

B. Cl. 1 *mf* *cresc.* *f*

B. Cl. 2 *p* *cresc.* *f*

B. Cl. *p* *cresc.* *f*

A. Sx. *p* *cresc.* *f*

T. Sx. *p* *cresc.* *f*

B. Sx. *p* *cresc.* *f*

B. Tpt. 1 *p* *cresc.* *f*

B. Tpt. 2 *p* *cresc.* *f*

Hn. *p* *cresc.* *f*

Tbn. 1 *p* *cresc.* *f*

Tbn. 2 *p* *cresc.* *f*

Euph. *p* *cresc.* *f*

Tuba *p* *cresc.* *f*

Bls. *cresc.* *f*

Mrb. *f*

Timp. *mf* *p* *f*

Perc. 1 *p* *cresc.* *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

Perc. 3 *f*

Crash Cymbal

Ride Cym. Bell

A₃ down to F

The Clapping Song - Score

69 Clap

Div.

Fl. *p* *mf* Clap

Ob. *mf* Clap

Bsn. *p* *mf*

B. Cl. 1 *mf* Clap

B. Cl. 2 *p* *mf* Clap

B. Cl. *p* *mf*

A. Sx. *mf* Clap

T. Sx. *mf* Clap

B. Sx. *mf*

B. Tpt. 1 *p* *mf* Clap

B. Tpt. 2 *mf* Clap

Hn. *p* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *p* *mf*

Tbn. 2 *p* *mf*

Euph. *p* *mf*

Tuba *p* *mf*

Bls. *p* *mf*

Mrb.

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1 *p* *mf* 2

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

The Clapping Song - Score

77

Musical score for 'The Clapping Song' page 13, measures 77-81. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets (B. Cl. 1, B. Cl. 2, B. Cl.), Saxophones (A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx.), Trumpets (B. Tpt. 1, B. Tpt. 2), Horns (Hn.), Trombones (Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Bells (Bls.), Maracas (Mrb.), Tom-toms (Timp.), and Percussion (Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3). The score features various dynamics such as *mf* and *f*, and includes performance instructions like 'Play' and 'China Cymbal'. The percussion parts include a snare drum pattern in Perc. 1 and a cymbal pattern in Perc. 3.

The Clapping Song - Score

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with 24 staves. The instruments are listed on the left: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 (B. Cl. 1), Clarinet 2 (B. Cl. 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Saxophone Alto (A. Sx.), Saxophone Tenor (T. Sx.), Saxophone Bass (B. Sx.), Trumpet 1 (B. Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (B. Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Clarinet Bass (Bls.), Maracas (Mrb.), Timpani (Timp.), and three Percussion parts (Perc. 1, 2, 3). The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first four measures are marked with a dynamic of *mf*. The fifth measure is marked 'Play' and the sixth measure is marked *mf*. The percussion parts include snare drum, cymbals, and maracas. The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The brass instruments play a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

The Clapping Song - Score

Full Miniscore on request.
Vollständige Miniscore auf Anfrage.

85

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
Tbn. 2
Euph.
Tuba
Bls.
Mrb.
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Perc. 3