

The Great Rubber Chicken Galop

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

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
2 - Piccolo
8 - Flute
2 - Oboe
2 - Bassoon
5 - Bb Clarinet 1
5 - Bb Clarinet 2
2 - Bb Bass Clarinet
4 - Eb Alto Saxophone 1
4 - Eb Alto Saxophone 2
2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone
2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone

4 - Bb Trumpet 1
4 - Bb Trumpet 2
4 - F Horn
3 - Trombone 1
3 - Trombone 2
2 - Euphonium B.C.
2 - Euphonium T.C.
4 - Tuba

2 - Mallets 1: Bells/Rubber Chicken/Whipcrack/Siren Whistle
2 - Mallets 2: Xylophone/Rubber Chicken
2 - Timpani
3 - Percussion 1&2: Snare Drum, Bass Drum
2 - Percussion 3: Cowbell/Rubber Chicken/Two Woodblocks
2 - Percussion 4: Crash Cymbals/Rubber Chicken

Full Set - \$75.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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Program Notes

In symphonic music, we are often celebrated for portraying the vast array of human emotions. Composers are lauded if they convey love, passion, fear, dread, anger, rage, pathos, and sorrow in their works. However, the same cannot be said about humor. Oftentimes, when humor is the main objective of a work, the piece is written off as "silly," "not serious," or as somehow being automatically less worthy of praise than the works that express the other aspects of the human condition. It's a stupid idea, but one that has unfortunately taken root in our music culture.

With this in mind, I was delighted beyond belief when Becca Clemens, director of the Margaret B. Pollard 8th Grade Band, contacted me to write a commission for her ensemble's performance at their state conference. When I asked if there were any content or stylistic requirements, she had one request:

"It has to have rubber chickens in it."

I paused.

"I beg your pardon?"

"We want a piece that uses rubber chickens."

With this in mind, I set out to write the piece you will hear or play shortly.

The Great Rubber Chicken Galop was written to sound as if it belonged on stage at a vaudeville performance in the 1920s. The combination of Galop form, ragtime harmonies, and rhythms, as well as the horde of rubber chickens, creates a piece that is just as serious in its crafting and construction as it is unserious in its comedic effect. I hope audiences will be simultaneously wowed by the virtuosity of the players and amused by the presence of squeaking and honking feathered friends.

Lastly, I must admit that I almost fell victim to the very mindset that I described at the beginning of these notes. After writing the piece, I strongly considered not releasing it. Several in the composition/music world already view me as a "lesser" composer due to a variety of factors, and I was hesitant to give them more ammunition in this regard.

However, it's like the old saying goes.

If they can't take a joke, forget 'em.

Peace, Love, and Music - Randy Standy

The Great Rubber Chicken Galop was commissioned by Becca Clemens and the Margaret B. Pollard 8th Grade Band. No rubber chickens were harmed in its creation.

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." Also, please reference ragtime music for style.
- Dynamics should be noticeable and taken to extremes.
- There is a YouTube Video describing how the chickens are to be played. You can find a link for the video on our website on the product page for this piece or on my YouTube Channel.
- Percussion should be on the higher end of dynamic balance. Do not hide them.
- Chicken choreography is not required...but it is strongly encouraged.

About the Composer



Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor's 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 the 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 2.5

Duration: 2:30

The Great Rubber Chicken Galop

Randall D. Standridge
(ASCAP)

With Pluck $\text{♩} = 164$

6

Score for The Great Rubber Chicken Galop, Grade 2.5, Duration: 2:30. The score is written for a large ensemble, including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The tempo is marked "With Pluck" at 164 beats per minute. The score is divided into measures 1 through 7, with a section marker "6" indicating the start of the final section. The percussion section includes Mallets 1 (Bells, Rubber Chicken, Whipcrack/Siren Whistle), Mallets 2 (Xylophone, Rubber Chicken), Timpani (F, B $\flat$, C, E $\flat$), Percussion 1/2 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum), Percussion 3 (Cowbell, Rubber Chicken, Two Woodblocks), and Percussion 4 (Crash Cymbals, Rubber Chicken). The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, B $\flat$ Clarinet 1/2, B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet, E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone 1/2, B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone, E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone, B $\flat$ Trumpet 1/2, Horn in F, Trombone 1/2, and Euphonium. The brass section includes Tuba. The score includes various dynamics such as *f* (forte), *ffz* (fortissimo with accent), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *fp* (fortissimo piano). The percussion section includes specific instructions for the Rubber Chicken, such as "top-Squeeze, bottom-Release" and "Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)".

10

Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)

Picc. *f*

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

B♭ Cl. 1/2 *mf* *f* a2 (opt. Solo or 1sts only) *mf*

B. Cl. *mf* *f* *mf*

A. Sx. 1/2 *mf* *f* *mf*

T. Sx. *mf* *f*

B. Sx. *mf* *f* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 1/2 *f*

Hn. *mf* *f*

Tbn. 1/2 *f* *mf* *f*

Euph. *mf* *f*

Tuba *mf* *f* *mf*

Bls. *fff*

Xyl. *mf* *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1/2 *mf* *f*

Perc. 3 *mf* Two Woodblocks (hard mallets)

Perc. 4

18

Picc. *f* *mf*

Fl. *f* *mf*

Ob. *f* *mf*

Bsn. *f* *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1/2 *f* *mf* All *mf* *a2*

B. Cl. *f* *mf*

A. Sx. 1/2 *f* *mf* Play *a2*

T. Sx. *f* *mf*

B. Sx. *f* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 1/2 *f* *mf* *a2*

Hn. *f* *mf*

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

Euph. *f* *mf*

Tuba *f* *mf*

Bls. *mf*

Xyl. *f* *mf*

Timp. *f* *mf*

Perc. 1/2 *f* *mf*

Perc. 3 *f* *mf*

Perc. 4 *f* (Ch) *mf*

14 15 16 17 18 19

This musical score is for a piece titled "The Great Rubber Chicken Galop". It is a full orchestral score spanning measures 20 to 25. The instrumentation includes Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinet 1/2, B♭ Clarinet, A♭ Saxophone 1/2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, B♭ Trumpet 1/2, Horn, Trombone 1/2, Euphonium, Tuba, Bells, Xylophone, Timpani, Percussion 1/2, Percussion 3, and Percussion 4. The score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic galop pattern, while the brass instruments provide harmonic support and accents. The percussion section includes a variety of instruments, with the snare drum (Perc. 1/2) playing a steady rhythm. The score is marked with a forte (f) dynamic in many places, indicating a loud, energetic performance. The piece concludes in measure 25 with a final chord and a fermata.

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1/2

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1/2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1/2

Hn.

Tbn. 1/2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

20 21 22 23 24 25

26

Picc. Fl. Ob. Bsn. B♭ Cl. 1/2 B. Cl. A. Sx. 1/2 T. Sx. B. Sx. B. Tpt. 1/2 Hn. Tbn. 1/2 Euph. Tuba Bls. Xyl. Timp. Perc. 1/2 Perc. 3 Perc. 4

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

34

Picc. *R.C.*
f
 Fl. *R.C.*
f
 Ob. *R.C.*
f
 Bsn.
 B♭ Cl. 1/2 *Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)*
f
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1/2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 B. Tpt. 1/2 *α2*
 Hn.
 Tbn. 1/2 *α2*
 Euph.
 Tuba
 Bls.
 Xyl. *Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)*
f
 Timp. *f*
 Perc. 1/2 *ffz*
f
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4 (Ch)

Picc.
 Fl.
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 B♭ Cl. 1/2
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx. 1/2
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 B♭ Tpt. 1/2
 Hn.
 Tbn. 1/2
 Euph.
 Tuba
 Bls.
 Xyl.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1/2
 Perc. 3
 Perc. 4

div.
 2. div.
 R.C.
 Siren Whistle
 Cowbell
 Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)

fp
f
ff

46

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1/2

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1/2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1/2

Hn.

Tbn. 1/2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Tim.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

46 **47** **48** **49** **50** **51**

[illegible]

58

Picc. *f* R.C.

Fl. *f* R.C.

Ob. *f* R.C.

Bsn. *f* Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)

B♭ Cl. 1/2 *f* R.C.

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sx. 1/2 *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1/2 *f* R.C.

Hn. *f* Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)

Tbn. 1/2 *f* Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)

Euph. *f* Rubber Chicken (top-Squeeze, bottom-Release)

Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Tim.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3 *mf* Two Woodblocks

Perc. 4

65 66 67 68 69

70

Hit R.C. on palm and lift through cresc.

Picc. *mf* *f*

Fl. *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

B♭ Cl. 1/2 *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mf* *f*

A. Sx. 1/2 *mf* *f*

T. Sx. *mf* *f*

B. Sx. *mf* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1/2 *mf* *f*

Hn. *mf* *f*

Tbn. 1/2 *mf* *f*

Euph. *mf* *f*

Tuba *mf* *f*

Bls. *f*

Xyl. *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1/2 *f*

Perc. 3

Perc. 4 (Ch) *f*

70 71 72 73 74 75

76

Group A Group B Group A Group B

Picc. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Fl. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

B♭ Cl. 1/2 *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

A. Sx. 1/2 *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

T. Sx. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

B. Sx. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1/2 *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Hn. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Tbn. 1/2 *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Euph. *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Tuba *mf* *f* In Out *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Bls. *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch)

Xyl. *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch)

Timp. *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch)

Perc. 1/2 *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch)

Perc. 3 *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch)

Perc. 4 *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch) *f* (Ch)

86

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1/2

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1/2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1/2

Hn.

Tbn. 1/2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4 (Ch)

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1/2

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1/2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1/2

Hn.

Tbn. 1/2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Tim.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

(Ch)

94

Picc. R.C. *ff*

Fl. R.C. *ff* div.

Ob. R.C. *ff*

Bsn. R.C. *ff*

B♭ Cl. 1/2 R.C. *ff*

B. Cl. R.C. *ff*

A. Sx. 1/2 R.C. *ff* *sfz*

T. Sx. R.C. *ff*

B. Sx. R.C. *ff* *sfz*

B♭ Tpt. 1/2 R.C. *ff*

Hn. R.C. *ff* All

Tbn. 1/2 R.C. *ff* *sfz*

Euph. R.C. *ff* *sfz*

Tuba R.C. *ff* *sfz*

Bls. *ff* Whipcrack *sfz*

Xyl. *ff*

Timp. *ff* *sfz*

Perc. 1/2 *ff*

Perc. 3 Cowbell *ff*

Perc. 4 *ff* (Ch)

94 95 96 97 98 99