INSTRUMENTATION

Piccolo

Flute 1 Tenor trombone 1
Flute 2 Tenor trombone 2
Oboe Bass trombone
English Horn Euphonium
Bassoon 1 Bass tuba

Bassoon 2

Harp

Clarinet 1 Piano

Clarinet 2

Trumpet 1 in Bb

Bass clarinet PERCUSSION (4 players):

Glockenspiel

Alto saxophone Crotales
Tenor saxophone Vibraphone
Baritone saxophone Marimba

Small triangle Large triangle

Trumpet 2 in Bb Finger cymbals

Trumpet 3 in Bb Gong

Glass wind chimes

Horn 1 in F Bell tree

Horn 2 in F Suspended cymbals

Firefall was premiered by the dedicatee on date of premiere at location of premiere in city of premiere.

Performance duration: 5 minutes

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PROGRAM NOTES

The original timbral idea for *Firefall* came to me during a concert at the 2019 Midwest Clinic in Chicago: I have no recollection of what group or piece. I do remember thinking of the opening descending thirds figure and wondering how that could be utilized in a band piece, and to what extent for different levels of band experience.

Serendipitously, not long afterwards I was made aware of the annual natural illumination phenomenon of the Horsetail Waterfall at Yosemite National Park in California, known as the "firefall". Every February, the alignment of the earth's rotation positions so that the sun's rays at sunset hit the waterfall in such a way as to give the appearance that the water is instead flowing lava, or that the water is on fire. This visual impetus immediately made me think of my earlier timbral idea. From such disparities is art born.

pp







