

The Lion Heart

Ryan Meeboer

The Lion Heart is a great way to describe one who is brave, be it a soldier, knight, or a member of society who risks their lives everyday to keep others safe. The piece is meant to be strong from start to finish, with some short contrasting sections to allow the band to demonstrate its various abilities.

The introduction is to be played with a slight aggression in order to grab the audience's attention. All the parts must work together in the opening measures to help create the desired dynamic, so everything must be balanced and in control of tone.

The main melody comes in at measure 17 with quick chords played by the rest of the ensemble. The melody repeats at measure 33, with some counter melodies in the lower parts. This countermelody should be played out a little to create musical interest, as it is the new material.

The first contrasting section comes in at measure 49, with a simple melody in the horn. As the countermelodies gradually enter, be sure that the horn can easily be heard, as they carry the main melody.

At measure 65, a recap of the main melody occurs, and the tuba introduces a new bass line to drive the piece and give it momentum into the Trio section. Be sure that these performers do not rush the tempo.

The trio section is to be played gently, with caution that the tempo does not slow, as the bass line follows the rhythm of all the other playing parts.

In the Coda, be sure the crescendo at measures 131 and 132 is played smoothly, and is able to build up dramatically. The piece carries through with its boldness and strength until the end of the piece, but again, be sure the tone stays in control to leave a final good impression.

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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18 19 20 21 22 23

24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32 33 34 35

to Coda

36 37 38 39 40 41

42 43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50 51 52 53

54 55 56 57 58 59

mp *mp* *mp* *mp*

60 61 62 63 64 65 lead

f *f* *f*

PREVIEW ONLY

66 67 68 69 70 71

72 73 74 75 76 77

78 79 80 81 82 83

mp

mp

mp

mp

84 85 86 87 88 89

mp

90 91 92 93 94 95

96 97 98 99 100 101

lead

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

102 103 104 105 106 107

108 109 110 111 112

fp

Coda
⌂

113 114 115 116 117 118

fp

119 120 121 122 123 124

fp

125 126 127 128 129 130

131 132 133 134 135 136

ff *ff* *ff* *ff*

PREVIEW ONLY