

Out of the Shadows

Ryan Meeboer

Out of the Shadows is a piece that follows the traditional march form, and is easy enough for early musicians to play, by focusing on the first six notes learned in most method books.

The piece opens with a bold, repetitive motif, accompanied by strong chords, used to grab the attention of the audience and before moving into setting up the feel for the main section of the march at measure 5.

From measures 11-42, be sure to pay particular attention to articulations and dynamics. Although the piece has a strong opening, the background to this section is to be kept light and provide the march feel. It is important that the melody is dominant throughout, and these players should not over blow to make the melody stand out, and perhaps risk ruining their tone.

The transition into the trio occurs at measure 42. Practice the timing of the chord shots in relation to the melody being played by the bass instruments. This section is to be played stronger by the lower instruments, with the upper instruments responding to their melodic material. Be sure the shot players are in complete control of their sound.

The trie, at measure 50, contrasts the rest of the chart by being played lightly and smoothly. There is a lot of block the driving introduced at measure 66, should a so be made promine it, as a six the new, in eresting mater al.

The original material is recapped to close the piece. Make sure in the final measures, the feel is strong and bold, without having players ruin their tone. It is important to leave a final good impression: strong, yet controlled.

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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