

Black Moon March

For Concert Band, Grade 0.5
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score	8 - Bb Trumpet
8 - Flute/Oboe	6 - F Horn
5 - Bb Clarinet	8 - Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon
5 - Bb Clarinet (F Horn Double)	2 - Euphonium T.C.
2 - Bb Bass Clarinet	4 - Tuba
8 - Eb Alto Saxophone	
2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone	
2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone	

2 - Mallets
2 - Chimes
2 - Timpani (opt. 3 large toms)
2 - Percussion 1&2: P1: Snare Drum P2: Bass Drum (opt. 1 player on Drumset)
2 - Percussion 3: Crash Cymbals/Suspended Cymbal
2 - Percussion 4&5: P4: Tambourine/Ride Cymbal P5: Whipcrack/Wind Chimes/Anvil

Full Set - \$55.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



Black Moon March

By Randall D. Standridge

Program Notes

I wrote this piece on December 31, 2024, during a new moon—when the sky is dark and the moon is completely hidden. There's something quietly unsettling about a moonless night. No glow, no shadows. Just stillness and dark.

As I looked out into that inky sky, I started to imagine something... moving.

Shadows. Marching. Silent feet kicking through dead leaves.

And just like that, *Black Moon March* began to take shape.

I've always loved writing darker music for younger players. There's something about that mysterious, slightly spooky sound that really clicks with them. So for this piece, I set out to write a Grade 0.5 march that wasn't your typical cheerful parade tune. Instead, I wanted something with a little more edge—something that felt like it belonged in the middle of a haunted forest or a Halloween night procession.

Black Moon March is written primarily with the first six notes most beginning bands learn, making it very accessible. It also introduces Concert F# in a way that feels natural and not intimidating. Melodies are shared across the ensemble so that everyone gets a little moment to shine (or maybe *glow faintly in the moonless dark*—you get the idea).

To support developing players, the percussion parts come in two versions: A (more advanced) and B (easier), giving you flexibility based on your ensemble's needs.

This one works well for concert or festival settings, but it's an especially fun fit for a Halloween performance.

And to help with learning and rehearsal, don't forget to grab the **Randy Standy Study Buddies**—they're available as a free download at randallstandridge.com.

So step softly. Listen closely.

And watch out for the shadows.

Sometimes...they move.

Peace, Love, and Music – Randy Standy

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."

-Dynamics should be noticeable and taken to extremes.

-Percussion should be on the higher end of dynamic balance. Do not hide them.

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 LGBTQ+ 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

Written on December 31, 2024, as the old year was dying and the moon hung black in the sky.

Score
Grade .5
Duration: 2:00

BLACK MOON MARCH

Randall D. Standridge
(ASCAP)

March Tempo $\text{♩} = 128$

Flute
Oboe

B♭ Clarinet

B♭ Clarinet*
(F Horn Double)
*also transposed for
E♭ Alto Saxophone

E♭ Alto
Saxophone

B♭ Tenor
Saxophone

B♭ Trumpet

Horn in F

Trombone
Euphonium
Bassoon

Low Reeds
Tuba

Mallets
(hard mallets)

Chimes

Timpani
(opt. 3 large toms)

Percussion 1 & 2
P1: Snare Drum
P2: Bass Drum
(opt. 1 player on drumset)

Percussion 3
Crash Cymbals/
Suspended Cymbal

Percussion 4&5
P4: Tambourine/Ride Cym.
P5: Whipcrack/Windchimes/
Anvil

Whipcrack

1 2 3 4 5

Copyright © 2025, by Randall Standridge Music, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Purchase required for public or recorded performance.
See "Permission to Photocopy..." agreement in score regarding digital distribution rights and usage of copyable parts. **Signature required.**
All other forms of duplication constitute an infringement of U.S. and International Copyright Law, and will be prosecuted by the publisher.

[illegible]

Fl. Ob.

Cl.

Cl. (F.H.Dbl.)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt.

Hn.

Trb.

Euph.

Bssn.

L.R.

Tuba

Mal.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

11 12 13 14 15 16

17

Fl. Ob.

Cl.

Cl. (F.H.Dbl.)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt.

Hn.

Trb.

Euph.

Bssn.

L.R.

Tuba

Mal.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc. 4

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

Fl. Ob.

Cl.

Cl. (F.H.Dbl.)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt.

Hn.

Trb.

Euph.

Bssn.

L.R.

Tuba

Mal.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc.4

23 24 25 26 27 28

f *sfz* *f* *sfz*

31

Fl. Ob.

Cl.

Cl. (F.H.Dbl.)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt.

Hn.

Trb.

Euph.

Bssn.

L.R.

Tuba

Mal.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

mp

mf

f

p

(ch)

Sus. Cym (yarn mallets)

35

Fl. Ob. *mf*

Cl. *p* *mf*

Cl. (F.H.Dbl.) *p* *mf*

A. Sx. *p* *mf*

T. Sx. *p* *mf*

Tpt. *f*

Hn. *mf*

Trb. B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone *mf*

Euph. Bssn. L.R. *p* *mf*

Tuba *p* *mf*

Mal. *mf*

Ch. *mf*

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3 *mf* *p* *mf*

Ride Cym. (stick)

Perc. 4 *p* Wind Chimes *mf*

35 36 37 38 39 40

41

Fl. Ob.

Cl.

Cl. (F.H. Db.)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt.

Hn.

Trb.

Euph.

Bssn.

L.R.

Tuba

Mal.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc. 4

Cr. Cyms.

Tambourine

Anvil (stick/mallet)

41 42 43 44 45 46

[illegible]

This musical score page contains measures 51 through 54 of the piece "Black Moon March". The score is arranged for a large ensemble, including woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines. The percussion section is divided into four parts: Perc. 1/2, Perc. 3, and Perc. 4, each with its own staff. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), and Saxophone (Sx.). The brass section includes Trumpet (Tpt.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Trb.), Euphonium (Euph.), Bassoon (Bssn.), and Tuba. The string section includes Violin (Vl.), Viola (Va.), Cello (Vcl.), and Double Bass (Db.). The score is written in a standard musical notation style, with measures 51, 52, 53, and 54 clearly marked at the bottom of the page.

Fl.
Ob.

Cl.

Cl.
(F.H.Dbl.)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt.

Hn.

Trb.
Euph.
Bssn.
L.R.

Tuba

Mal.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc. 4

55

Fl. Ob.

Cl.

Cl. (F.H.Dbl.)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt.

Hn.

Trb.

Euph.

Bssn.

L.R.

Tuba

Mal.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc.4

Whipcrack

55 56 57 58