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# **TERRA AUSTRALIS**

## by Martin Ellerby

**Terra Australis** was commissioned by the YBS Band for their 2005 'Kings of Brass' tour of Australia, and premiered by them, under their conductor Professor David King, in Sydney Opera House, New South Wales on 22 August 2005.

This Wind Band arrangement was commissioned by and is dedicated to the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, Director of Music, Lt. Colonel C.J. Davis, OBE

#### Composer's Programme Note: -

The first compositional outcome of my composer-in-residency with the YBS Band was Terra Australis written in close collaboration with Professor David King. I had usually only had more intimate working when engaged on concertos but David had things in mind for the piece and I dicided to trust his instance and try and produce something specifically geared to the band's 2005 tour of A ustralia. David for yield the title, I had only to compose the music! The experience has been rewording and has taken me down some new avenues of investigation all of which, I hope, come out in the work. Composed in a single movement, the piece has a tripartite structure, opening with a dran atic representation of the natural wonders of the intoxicating Australian I and cape, beautiful yet dangerous by turn. The spirit of Captain Cook's Endeavour searching the coasta waters, the observation of the indige out population, the joy of a new life and optimistic future for the settlers and the strumph over tragedy when pioneering the vast new unexplored vistas are all represented. The central and initially more lyrical, section features more exposed instrumental lines and textures including in the undercorrent a quotation of Australia's national anthem. This gives way to some more rapid material (and, into otest environments, an additional cadenza section) before to additing with the arrow sea wars, far from hore. The final section forms an 'Anthem for a Nation where, after a data no ry statement of the nation where captured as the environment's where echoing cornet fanfares salute the nation's fallen in oversea, wars, far from hore. The final section forms an 'Anthem for a Nation where, after a data no ry statement of the nation theme (hidden away in the earlier stages of the work's progress), the mendy is now realised in the Il. Slowly building towards a huge cathedral of sound in the manner of a grand chorale the code by age full circle the opening material in an even more colossal and energetic conclusion. Dedicated to David King and t

#### Percussion Requirements:-

#### Percussion 1

Timpani, Clashed Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal, Tubular Bells

#### Percussion 2

Placed together in 'kit' fashion (all with S. D. sticks): Side Drum, Suspended Cymbal, 2 Tom-toms, Wood Block, 2 Bongoes *Also:* Clashed Cymbals, Vibraphone, Mark-tree, Triangle

#### Percussion 3

Bass Drum, Claves, Glockenspiel, Clashed Cymbals, Xylophone, 2 Tom-toms, Tubular Bells, Tam-tam, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle



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