**FULL CONDUCTOR SCORE** 

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# Aura Lea American Folk Song

Arranged by **Robert W. Smith** 

# Sound Foundations Series

FOR BEGINNING BANDS!



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## Sound Foundations Series

(Grade levels 1/2 - 1)

The Sound Foundations Series is carefully designed and written to serve the performance needs of the beginning band program. In addition to providing quality performance literature for your concert program, each title in the series provides an appropriate musical setting for the conductor/teacher to reinforce musical concepts and skills that have been addressed in the first year of instruction. Written at two grade levels (1/2 and 1), the Sound Foundations Series provides a variety of musical works that employ the note and rhythm sequence used in most band method books. The Sound Foundations Series is a sound fundamental approach laying the foundation for a sound future.

# Aura Lea American Folk Song

Arr. Robert W. Smith

#### Instrumentation

Full Conductor Score	1
Flute	10
Oboe	2
Bb Clarinet	12
Bb Bass Clarinet	2
Bassoon	2
Eb Alto Saxophone	8
Bb Tenor Saxophone	2
Eb Baritone Saxophone	2
Bb Trumpet	10
F Horn	
Trombone/Baritone BC	8
Baritone TC	2
Tuba	4
Bells, Vibes	6
Mark Tree (Wind Chimes), Triangle	2
Suspended Cymbal	2
Piano/Keyboard (ontional)	1

#### **Program Notes**

This classic American Civil War folk song has inspired generations of musicians throughout the last two centuries. This setting of **Aura Lea** features melody throughout the band as they explore the timeless lyrical theme.

#### **Notes To Conductor**

During the introduction, please maintain a balance between the clarinets and the flutes/oboe/bells/vibes as the melodic figures interact. Melody is presented by various sections throughout the arrangement. This provides a teaching opportunity in terms of balance. Feel free to adjust the notated dynamic to insure a smooth melodic transition from section to section. M. 40-46 feature a terraced crescendo as instruments are added from high to low. The same concept of balance applies to generate the greatest music effect into the fermata.

I have notated dynamic shaping throughout for expression as well as a teaching opportunity. Feel free to adjust based on your personal interpretation and teaching situation.

I hope that you and the band find **Aura Lea** to be a rewarding musical experience. Best wishes for a wonderful performance!



#### **About the Composer**



Robert W. Smith (b. 1958) is one of the most popular and prolific composers of concert band and orchestral literature in America today. He has over 600 publications in print with the majority composed and arranged through his long association with Warner Bros. Publications and the Belwin catalog.

Mr. Smith's credits include many compositions and productions in all areas of the music field. His original works for winds and

percussion have been programmed by countless military, university, high school, and middle school bands throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, South America and Asia. His Symphony #1 (The Divine Comedy), Symphony #2 (The Odyssey) and Africa: Ceremony, Song and Ritual have received worldwide critical acclaim. His educational compositions such as The Tempest, Encanto, and The Great Locomotive Chase have become standards for developing bands throughout the world. His numerous works for orchestras of all levels are currently some of the most popular repertoire available today. His music has received extensive airplay on major network television as well as inclusion in multiple motion pictures. From professional ensembles such as the United States Navy Band and the Atlanta Symphony to school bands and orchestras throughout the world, his music speaks to audiences in any concert setting.

As a conductor and clinician, Mr. Smith has performed throughout the United States, Canada, Japan, Europe and Australia. He is the principal conductor of the American Symphonic Winds and the American Festival Philharmonic Orchestra, professional recording ensembles based in Washington D. C. He has recently completed production of **Symphony No. 3 (Don Quixote)**, the fourth in a series of compact disc recordings of his best-known works for concert band. In addition, he is co-creator of the Expressions Music Curriculum. This comprehensive Pre-K through 12 music program includes *Band Expressions*, an innovative new approach to teaching music through the band.

Mr. Smith is the Vice President of Product Development and is an exclusive composer for the C. L. Barnhouse Company and Walking Frog Records. In addition, he is currently teaching in the Music Industry program at Troy University in Troy, Alabama. His teaching responsibilities are focused in music composition, production, publishing and business.

### **CD Recording Available**



WFR383

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