

RWS BEGINNING BAND SERIES

FULL CONDUCTOR SCORE

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Black Sea Journey

Mark J. Connor

RWS

Beginning Band Series

RWS MUSIC
COMPANY
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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Flute	10
Oboe (opt. 2nd Flute)	4
B \flat Clarinet	12
B \flat Bass Clarinet	2
Bassoon	2
E \flat Alto Saxophone	8
B \flat Tenor Saxophone	2
E \flat Baritone Saxophone	2
B \flat Trumpet	10
F Horn	4
Trombone/Euphonium	8
Euphonium T.C.	2
Tuba	4
Mallet Percussion: Xylophone	4
Timpani	1
Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum	3
Percussion 2: Triangle, Tambourine, Suspended Cymbal	3

PROGRAM NOTES

Situated on the border of Europe and Asia and fed by rivers that touch 17 countries, the Black Sea has been a silent witness to the remarkable history and people of this region. It has been an important waterway for the great empires of Persia, Thrace, Russia, and the Ottoman Turks as well as Vikings who traded along its banks. *Black Sea Journey* by Mark J. Connor was inspired by this rich history. The piece intersperses powerful melodies with hints of folk dances to create sonic images of this sometimes turbulent, and always culturally vibrant region.

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

This work should be powerful and dramatic with every effort made to perform the work at the upper end of the notated tempo range.

Direct the students to pay special attention to articulation throughout the work. Note the interplay of short staccato notes (never clipped) with long legato notes, sometimes at the same time in different voices!

During the decrescendo in measures 34-35, the band should be as soft as possible and yet still maintain a good tone to help make and the subsequent build to measure 40 even more dramatic.

Because of the syncopated and sometimes asymmetric nature of music from the cultures bordering the Black Sea, the work has been written in a "fast four" to make some of these rhythmic features accessible to young players. When your group is secure with these rhythms and at your discretion, it is possible to conduct in cut time to more readily bring out these features.

I hope you, your students, and their audiences enjoy *Black Sea Journey*. I wish you the best of luck in all that you do!

Mark J. Connor

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Mark J. Connor (b. 1971) is a composer, educator, and conductor with works for concert band published by RWS Music and Grand Mesa Music. He has been commissioned to write music for numerous organizations including Composers and Schools in Concert and the Commission Project.

Mark has taught classes at all levels ranging from junior high school through postgraduate. He is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor of Music at Webster University in St. Louis. From 1997 to 2001 Mark was the director of bands and teacher at Palma High School in Salinas, California.

BLACK SEA JOURNEY

Allegro con forza (♩ = 144-152)

The score is for a 4/4 piece in B-flat major, marked 'Allegro con forza' with a tempo of 144-152 beats per minute. It features a variety of instruments including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone) and brass (Trumpet, Horn, Trombone/Euphonium, Tuba) sections play a rhythmic melody of eighth and quarter notes. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Mallet Percussion (Xylophone), and Timpani (G, D). The score is divided into two systems, each starting with the tempo marking 'Allegro con forza (♩ = 144-152)'. Dynamics range from piano (p) to fortissimo (f). A large watermark 'For Not Valid for Performance' is overlaid on the score.

9

Flute

Oboe
(Opt. Fl. 2)

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Trpt.

F Hn.

Tbn./
Euph.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

f

Triangle

7 8 9 10 11 12

Flute

Oboe
(Opt. Fl. 2)

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Trpt.

F Hn.

Tbn./
Euph.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

13 *f* 14 15 16 17 18 *mp*

18 *mp* div.

Flute

Oboe
(Opt. Fl. 2)

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Trpt.

F Hn.

Tbn./
Euph.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

19 20 21 22 23 24

26 *div.*

Flute *mp*

Oboe (Opt. Fl. 2) *mf*

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. *mf*

26

Trpt. *mf*

F Hn. *mf*

Tbn./Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Mlt. *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

25 26 27 28 29 30

34

Flute *mp* *p* unis.

Oboe (Opt. Fl. 2) *mp* *p*

Cl. *mp* *p*

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sx. *mp* *p*

T. Sx. *mp* *p*

B. Sx.

34

Trpt. *mp* *p*

F Hn. *mp* *p*

Tbn./Euph.

Tuba

Mlt. *p*

Timp. *p*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

31 32 33 34 35 36

40

Flute

Oboe
(Opt. Fl. 2)

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Trpt.

F Hn.

Tbn./
Euph.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

40

37

38

39

40

41

42

p

f

Flute

Oboe
(Opt. Fl. 2)

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Trpt.

F Hn.

Tbn./
Euph.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

49 50 51 52 53 54

p *f* *p*

61

Flute *f*

Oboe (Opt. Fl. 2) *f*

Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

A. Sx. *f*

T. Sx. *f*

B. Sx. *f*

div.

61

Trpt. *f*

F Hn. *f*

Tbn./Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Mlt. *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

61 62 63 64 65 66

Flute *unis.* *mf* *f* *unis.*

Oboe (Opt. Fl. 2) *f*

Cl. *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

A. Sx. *mf* *f*

T. Sx. *mf* *f*

B. Sx. *mf* *f*

Trpt. *mf* *f*

F Hn. *mf* *f*

Tbn./Euph. *mf* *f*

Tuba *mf* *f*

Mlt. *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 *mf* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 2 *p* *f*

67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74