ELEMENTARY BAND SERIES

MARCH OF THE DIGGERS

by

ADAM ARNOLD

DURATION: 2'40" LEVEL: 1

INSTRUMENTATION

1 - Score

8 – Flute

2 – Oboe

2 - Bassoon

4 – Clarinet 1

4 – Clarinet 2

2 - Bass Clarinet

4 – Alto Saxophone

2 – Tenor Saxophone

1 – Baritone Saxophone

4 – Trumpet 1

4 – Trumpet 2

4 – French Horn

4 – Trombone

2 - Euphonium

1 – Euphonium TC

4 - Tuba

1 – Timpani

2 – Glockenspiel

2 – Percussion 1 snare drum / bass drum

2 – Percussion 2 crash cymbals / tom toms

Band Music

by Australian Composers

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MARCH OF THE DIGGERS

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Duration: 2'40" Level: 1

Program Notes:

The term 'digger' is a military slang term used to describe soldiers from Australian and New Zealand. This colloquial term became prominent in World War I when the two countries fought together on the Western Front. The term is linked to the ANZAC (Australia and New Zealand Army Corps) legend of mateship.

This piece was written to give younger musicians a chance to play the style of March you might hear at an ANZAC day parade. Imagine the unison footfalls of the proud young men and women as they march side-by-side to this rousing tune.

Rehearsal Notes:

Attention needs to be given to the stability of the staccato crotchets throughout – they should resemble steady footfalls. Keep the tempo on the slower side (as marked!).

The bass end focus at [16] is a great chance to develop some stamina and grunt in the bottom end of the band. Don't let them cut long notes short!

The trio at [34] should be very soft indeed and the repeat is marked softer still. At this young age – do your best to replicate this dynamic change. The euphonium and the saxophone should do their best to blend. The flute line can be a solo or soli – you might like the soloist to stand up or come out the front.

The rallentando into [48] should be very slight – it would be tempting to do a big American Sousa style ritenuto, but it doesn't really suit the Australian style.

Allow the trombone countermelody to cut through proudly in the recapitulation.

About the Composer:

Beginning his music career with a cornet for his 6th birthday, Adam moved quickly on to bigger and better instruments, playing the trombone and euphonium before finally settling on the tuba. Adam studied at Melbourne University, where he graduated with Honours in Music Performance in 2004. He then spent eight years performing with the Royal Australian Navy Band. During this time he completed a Graduate Diploma in Education at the University of New England, and was awarded a Licentiate in Music Performance from Trinity College London.

Adam has performed in numerous orchestras, wind bands, big bands, brass bands, jazz combos, roving groups, cover bands and pit orchestras. He has won state and national solo competitions. As well as playing, he is an accomplished arranger and conductor.

Adam now lives in Melbourne, Australia, and teaches at Carey Grammar School and Richmond West Primary School. He performs as a freelance musician, and runs "Funk Buddies", a New Orleans style street funk band.

N.B. Please include the details of this work in the Performing Rights Return or send details of the performance to the publisher

Adam Arnold







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