# ... AND TEARS NO BITTERNESS

by

# RALPH HULTGREN

## **DURATION: 6'45"**

### **LEVEL: 4**

### **INSTRUMENTATION**

LE

- 1 Score
- 3 Flute 1
- 3 Flute 2

Oboe 1

- 1 Oboe 2
- 1 Bassoon 1
- 1 Bassoon 2
- 3 Clarinet 1
- 3 Clarinet 2
- 3 Clarinet 3
- 2 Bass Clarinet
- 2-Alto Saxophone 1
- 2 Alto Saxophone 2
- 2 Tenor Saxophone
- 1 Baritone Saxophone

- 3 Trumpet 1 3 – Trumpet 2
- 3 Trumpet 3
- 2 French Horn 1
- 2 French Horn 2
- 2 Trombone 1
- 2 Trombone 2
- 1 Bass Trombone
- 2 Euphonium
- 1 Euphonium TC
- 4 Tuba
- 1 Double Bass
- 1 Timpani
- 2 Mallets (chimes / glockenspiel)
- 2 Percussion 1 (bass drum / triangle)
- 2 Percussion 2 (suspended cymbal)

# **Band Music**

by Australian Composers

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### **Program Notes:**

The composer writes...

Bill Buchanan is one of the preeminent music teachers in Queensland; a nurturer and a developer of talent. When he left full time work to pursue other projects his students, past and present, put together a concert to celebrate his teaching career. My contribution to the celebrations was this work.

Bill would most often commence a concert, no matter where, with his band playing Abide With Me, the old hymn tune, Eventide. We talked about why and we talked about what the hymn might mean to him, outside of its musical construction, and we talked about its use in military situations, especially Anzac Day. I had concluded to compose a piece to honour Bill's contributions to the development of young Queensland musicians and had written a simple melody to use – three versions of it, in fact. The work, "…and tears no bitterness" (words taken from the fourth verse of the hymn) is a setting of my original melody, and its variants, interspersed with Bill's favourite hymn, Abide With Me

#### **Rehearsal Notes:**

The music is lyrical and requires a quite song-like approach. It would be very worthwhile considering the words of the hymn to get a sense of phrasing and narrative – the first and fourth verses may well be best on which to reflect.

Given its lyrical nature it is essential that you connect the notes, not just in the melody and counter melody but in accompaniment. All parts need to 'sing' and should be approached with that outcome in mind.

Take care to linger at the ends of phrases and finish them well, don't just allow them to ebb away. Give direction to the lines and allow the harmonic material to advise you on shaping and direction.

#### About the Composer:

Ralph Hultgren is currently the Artistic Director of the Australian International Music Festival – Sydney. He is a freelance teacher, composer and conductor having held tenured positions at Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University and the Queensland University of Technology, where he lectured in Composition, Conducting, Music Education and Instrumental Music Pedagogy. He also holds an adjunct position at QCGU supervising Doctoral and Masters in composition and Music Education. Dr Hultgren has been invested into the Order of Australia as a Member in the General Division (AM). This esteemed national honour sits alongside his professional awards that include being Patron of the Maryborough Music Conference, becoming a recipient of the Midwest Clinic – Chicago, International Award, and the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Association's Citation of Excellence, located along with Life Membership in ABODA. Dr Hultgren is a member of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, a full writer member of the Australasian Performing Right Association and the Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society. His compositional output ranges from educational and amateur performing groups to the professional studio and stage, and his conducting credits are equally broad. He continues to conduct, by invitation, across Australia, the Asia Pacific region and North America. Dr Hultgren loves to read and to listen to fine music in all genres.

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