Reminiscence

Kathryn Salfelder

Apprentice Level
Novice

Reminiscence

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Windependence

BOOSEY & HAWKES

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Program Notes

Reminiscence is one of three pieces commissioned to honor Frank L. Battisti’s 85th birthday, June 27, 2016. A five-note motive – composed by Frank himself (!): F G A F G♭ (here, transposed down a fifth: B♭ C D B♭ B) – saturates every measure of the piece.

In its entirety, the motive serves as the first five notes of the principal melody. The first three pitches (B♭ C D) morph into a repeated hemiola, which rises sequentially in pitch as the piece progresses. The motive’s range – Major 3rd and minor 3rd – is emphasized via third relations in the harmony.

Reminiscence evokes nostalgia, yearning, and growth. Some moments are peaceful, while others are full of angst. I encourage both performers and listeners to weave their own personal memories and stories into the musical narrative.

I am fortunate to have first encountered Frank Battisti during my undergrad years at NEC. His teaching, his passion for details, and his advocacy for new, rich, and challenging music at all grade levels are inspirations. I am grateful to celebrate him with my first piece for young wind band.

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For additional use of this motive, please see the two other Frank L. Battisti 85th Birthday Wind Band Commissioning Project compositions: Michael Weinstein’s Neapolitan Ode (HL48024519) and Kenneth Amis’s Spring Overture (HL 48024517).

Performance Notes

Articulation is legato throughout (except where accents/tenutos are indicated). Some slurs simply highlight hemiola groupings; avoid clipping the last note of each grouping.

Accidentals remain in effect for the duration of the measure, at the octave in which they occur. They are sometimes rewritten within a measure for clarity.

Percussion instruments should always be allowed to ring (sempre l.v.). If only one glockenspiel is available, Glockenspiel 2 may be performed on piano/synthesizer; it should sound two octaves higher than notated. At the conductor’s discretion, the bass drum (mm. 59-65 only) may be doubled by additional players on snare drum(s), tenor drum(s), and/or tom(s).

At the opening of the work, glockenspiels (twinkling stars!) are notated in A major, while the winds and brass sound in B♭ major.

For a less-challenging version, omit mm. 30 through 65, leaping directly from beat 4 of m. 29 to the downbeat of m. 66. (Remove clarinet pickups on beat 4 of m. 29.) This shortened version is ca. 2’45”.

Instrumentation

1 – Full Score
8 – Flute
2 – Oboe
6 – B♭ Clarinet 1
6 – B♭ Clarinet 2
2 – B♭ Bass Clarinet
2 – Bassoon
2 – E♭ Alto Saxophone 1
2 – E♭ Alto Saxophone 2
2 – B♭ Tenor Saxophone
1 – E♭ Baritone Saxophone

4 – B♭ Trumpet 1
4 – B♭ Trumpet 2
4 – Horn in F
3 – Trombone 1
3 – Trombone 2
4 – Tuba
1 – String Bass
1 – Glockenspiel 1
1 – Glockenspiel 2
2 – Percussion
Triangle, Bass Drum, Sus. Cym.
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