

Program Note

The **American Song-Set** was written at the suggestion of Michael Mulcahy, who was looking for a piece that used American folk melodies as its basis. Each of the four movements contains several settings of the featured melody, with appropriate alterations of rhythm, tonality, texture and tempo.

1. Red River Valley

A slow, expressive treatment featuring flowing accompanying lines suggestive of a river's movement.

2. Polly Wolly Doodle

A spirited, rather humorous version with echoes of harmonicas and banjos along with some abrupt contrasts of meter, tempo and texture.

3. Home on the Range

A fairly straightforward treatment with the melody presented several times in different keys.

4. Turkey in the Straw

The most unusual of all the treatments – a chorale opening followed by a fugato statement, as J. S. Bach might have approached the material!

The first performance took place on August 10, 2000 by Michael Mulcahy and The Grand Teton Brass and Percussion Ensemble (under the title "Country and Western Song-Set").

Biography

A native of Chicago, Joseph Kreines came to Florida as Associate Conductor of the Florida Symphony Orchestra in Orlando, where he served for four years. Subsequently, he was conductor of the Brevard Symphony, Associate Conductor of The Florida Orchestra in Tampa, and musical director for numerous opera and musical theater productions. He has served as clinician and guest conductor with over 300 bands, orchestras and choruses throughout Florida and also appears as piano accompanist at numerous recitals and festivals. In addition, Mr. Kreines has made numerous transcriptions for concert band and brass choir, notably of the music of Percy Grainger. He is also the author of *Music for Concert Band*, a selective annotated guide to band literature.

Instrumentation

Trumpet in C 1-2-3-4

Horn in F 1-2-3-4

Trombone 1-2-3

Baritone

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal

Percussion 2: Bells, Vibraphone, Xylophone

8 10 15

1 *mp poco a poco cresc.*

2 *mp poco a poco cresc.*

C Tpts. 3

4

1 *mf* *f* stagger breath

2 *mf* *f* stagger breath

F Hns. 3

4 *f*

1 *f very singingly* (stagger breath w/Tbns.)

2 *f very singingly* (stagger breath w/Tbns.)

Trm. 3 *f very singingly* (stagger breath w/Tbns.)

Euph. *f very singingly* (stagger breath w/Tbns.)

Tuba *f*

8 10 15

Timp. *p*

Perc.

Mallets

Slow and sustained ♩ = 56-63

69 70

C Tpts.
1
2
3
4

F Hns.
1
2
3
4

Trn.
1
2
3

Euph.
1

Tuba
1

Slow and sustained ♩ = 56-63

69 70

Timp.
1

Perc.
1

Mallets
1

let ring

to Vibraphone

Vibraphone (fast speed)

ff

II. Polly Wolly Doodle

Energetic, with Humor (♩ = 100-112)

5

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The top section includes four staves for Trumpets in C (numbered 1-4), four staves for Horns in F (numbered 1-4), three staves for Trombone (numbered 1-3), one staff for Euphonium, and one staff for Tuba. The bottom section includes one staff for Timpani, one for Percussion, and one for Mallets. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Energetic, with Humor' with a quarter note equal to 100-112 beats per minute. A rehearsal mark '5' is placed above the first staff of the trumpet part. Dynamic markings include 'f marcato' and 'mf'. A large diagonal watermark 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid across the center of the page.

III. Home on the Range

Moderately flowing ♩ = 84-96

5

1 *mf* *singingly* *solo*

2

3 *mf tenuto* *mp*

4 *mf tenuto* *mp*

1 *mf* *sim.*

2 *mf* *sim.*

3 *mf*

4 *mf*

1

2

3

Euphonium *mf* *sim.*

Tuba *mf tenuto*

Moderately flowing ♩ = 84-96

5

Timpani

Percussion

Mallets

The image shows a page of a musical score for the piece 'Home on the Range'. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for different instruments. The top section is for the Trumpets in C, with four staves numbered 1 to 4. The second section is for the Horns in F, also with four staves numbered 1 to 4. Below these are the Trombone (three staves), Euphonium, and Tuba. The bottom section includes Timpani, Percussion, and Mallets. The tempo is marked 'Moderately flowing' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 84-96. A rehearsal mark '5' is placed at the beginning of the solo section. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *sim.* (sforzando). Performance instructions include 'singingly' for the first trumpet and 'solo' for the first trumpet part. A large watermark 'www.hickeys.com' is visible across the middle of the page.

9 10 15

C Tpts.
1
2
3
4

F Hns.
1
2
3
4

Trm.
1
2
3

Euph.
Tuba

Timp.
Perc.
Mallets

mf *sim.* *mf*

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IV. Turkey in the Straw

In the manner of a Chorale—Slow and sustained ♩ = 60–72
(stagger ad lib.)

5

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The top section includes four staves for Trumpets in C (labeled 1, 2, 3, 4), four staves for Horns in F (labeled 1, 2, 3, 4), three staves for Trombone (labeled 1, 2, 3), one staff for Euphonium, and one staff for Tuba. The bottom section includes three staves for Percussion: Timpani, Percussion, and Mallets. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo and performance instructions are 'In the manner of a Chorale—Slow and sustained ♩ = 60–72 (stagger ad lib.)'. The dynamic marking is *f molto legato*. A large diagonal watermark 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid across the center of the page.

55 60

C Trpts.
1
2
3
4

F Hns.
1
2
3
4

Trn.
1
2
3

Euph.
1

Tuba
1

Timp.
55 60

Perc.

Mallets

www.hickeys.com

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a brass and percussion ensemble. The score is divided into several parts: C Trumpets (4 staves), F Horns (4 staves), Trombones (3 staves), Euphonium (1 staff), Tuba (1 staff), Timpani (1 staff), Percussion (1 staff), and Mallets (1 staff). The music is in 2/4 time and the key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). Measures 55 and 60 are marked with boxes. The C Trumpets and F Horns parts feature melodic lines with accents and dynamic markings like 'f'. The Trombone and Euphonium parts have more rhythmic, eighth-note patterns. The percussion parts are mostly rests. A large watermark 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid diagonally across the middle of the page.

