Galleons and Cutlasses Notes

I have always been a huge fan of pirates. Some of my favorite films are the old Errol Flynn swashbucklers *Captain Blood* and *The Sea Hawk*, which feature music of the incomparable Erich Korngold, as well as the lesser known version of *Treasure Island* that stars Charleton Heston and Christian Bale and features some great music by The Chieftains. For a while now I have been waiting for a good opportunity to channel some of this pirate love into a composition and I'm very pleased to have had this opportunity to do so. The work consists of 2 contrasting movements, *Phantom Ship* (a name borrowed from the haunting rock formation that "sails" in Oregon's Crater Lake) and *Tempting Davy's Grip* (referring, of course, to the familiar Davy Jones's Locker). I hope you enjoy it!

This piece would not have been possible without the generous support of the ensembles that contributed to commission this work. My deepest thanks to you all!

*Galleons and Cutlasses Consortium

All-Star Brass Quintet - Banff, Alberta, Canada
Auburn University Dean's Brass Quintet - Auburn, AL
Bala Brass - Boston, MA

"Boro" Brass Quintet - Georgia Southern University
Bridge Brass Quintet - Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
CCM Chamber Brass - Cincinnati, OH
D.C. Brass Collective - Washington D.C.
Great Noise Ensemble - Washington D.C.
Metales M5 Mexican Brass - San Miguel de Allende, Mexico
Oklahoma State University Faculty Brass Quintet - Stillwater, OK
Thistle Hill Brass Company - Fort Worth, TX
Valor Brass Quintet - Washington D.C.

Kevin McKee is an active trumpeter, composer, and educator in the Washington DC area. A graduate of CSU, Sacramento (BM) and the University of Maryland (MM), Kevin is a member of the Great Noise Ensemble, the Brass of the Potomac and the Britt Festival Orchestra in Jacksonville, OR. He has performed with the Virginia and Richmond Symphonies, the New York Opera Society, and the *The O'Jays*. He has also attended the Aspen Music Festival, the National Orchestral Institute, and the Music Masters Course in Kasusa, Japan. His teachers were Chris Gekker, Steve Hendrickson, and Gary Dilworth. His compositions have been performed extensively throughout North America as well as in Europe, Asia, and Australia. As an educator, he teaches brass at the International School of Music and DeMatha High School in addition to his private studio. He is also a member of ASCAP.

Also by Kevin McKee

Escape for brass quintet

Vuelta del Fuego for brass quintet

Dürrenhorn Passage for trumpet sextet

A Winter's Night for trombone and piano Centennial Horizon for trumpet and piano Fantazye for clarinet, horn and piano

Available at http://www.balquhiddermusic.com

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Score

GALLEONS AND CUTLASSES

for Brass Quintet

Performance Time: 7' 30" circa

Kevin McKee (2013)









