rchas

ROYAL FIREWORKS MUSIC

II. La Paix (The Pain)

III. Bouree IV. La Rejoissance (The Joy)

GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL Arranged by FRANK ERICKSON



I Full Score

- 4 Ist Flute/Piccolo
- 4 2nd Flute
- I Ist Oboe
- I 2nd Oboe
- 4 Ist B_b Clarinet
- 4 2nd B[,] Clarinet
- 4 3rd B^J Clarinet
- 2 E Alto Clarinet/ E Contrabass Clarinet
- 2 Bb Bass Clarinet/ BBb Contrabass Clarinet
- 2 Bassoon
- 2 Ist E Alto Saxophone
- 2 2nd E Alto Saxophone
- 2 B♭ Tenor Saxophone
 1 E♭ Baritone Saxophone

- 3 1st B♭ Trumpet
- 3 2nd B^b Trumpet
- 3 3rd B♭ Trumpet
- 2 Ist F Horn 1 2nd F Horn
- 2nd F Horn 3rd F Horn
- Ist Trombone
- 2nd Trombone
- 3rd Trombone
- Baritone T.C.
- Baritone B.C.
- 4 Tuba

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- I Timpani
- 3 Percussion
 - (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

Frank Erickson Publications



Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.

About the composer

1985 ushered in a new interest in Baroque music with the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of both George Frederick Handel and Johann Sebastian Bach. Born in Halle, Germany, Handel was always interested in theatrical works and at the the age of twenty-two the first of his many operas, *Rodrigo* was enthusiastically received by the public. In 1710 he made his first trip to England, later becoming a naturalized English citizen. One of the first composers of serious music for winds, his *Water Music* (1717) and *Royal Fireworks Music* have become band literature standards. He is undoubtedly best remembered for his oratorio, *The Messiah*, which he conducted from the organ just eight days before his death in 1759.

About the composition

Handel was commissioned to write the *Royal Fireworks Music* by Charles II of England for a celebration in commemoration of the signing of the peace treaty known as Aix-la-Chapelle following the war of the Austrian succession in 1748. It was scored for a large group of wind instruments, basses and timpani, but there are conflicting reports concerning both the size of the band and details of the performance. One report states that the band consisted of 24 oboes, 12 bassoons, 9 trumpets, 9 horns, 3 pairs of timpani and string basses. Another reported 16 oboes, 16 bassoons, 40 trumpets, 20 French horns, basses and 8 pairs of timpani, in addition to flutes, fifes and a serpent, over 100 players in all.

One account of the performance was that a large wooden building had been constructed in an outdoor park setting in which Handel's music would be featured as a grand finale to the program. The music was accorded great acclaim and was followed by a fireworks display which erroneously set the building on fire. A second (and more logical report) was that there was a rehearsal six days before the performance, and attended by a vast crowd, but on the day of the planned performance the fireworks set ablaze the structure erected to display them and the performance never came about.

The suite consists of five movements, four of which are included in this arrangement, omitting a short minuet movement. Although the overture is somewhat abbreviated from the original, the other movements are presented in full.

Rehearsal suggestions

Overture - The dotted eighth note should be played in this manner with only a slight separation before the sixteenth note . The tenuto indications on the quarter notes should be closely observed, giving the quarter notes their full value.

La Paix - If difficulty is encountered with the rhythm _____ point out the similarity to _____

La Rejoissance, *mf-ff*, (measure 9) indicates this passage is to be played *mf* the first time and *ff* the second time.

ROYAL FIREWORKS MUSIC

Full Score Duration 7:30 3



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