

Second Movement of The Holst Winter Suite For Band

In the Bleak Midwinter

GUSTAV HOLST

Arranged by ROBERT W. SMITH (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor
- 1 C Piccolo
- 3 1st Flute
- 3 2nd Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 3 1st B_b Clarinet
- 3 2nd B_b Clarinet
- 3 3rd Bb Clarinet
- 1 E♭ Alto Clarinet
- 2 Bb Bass Clarinet
- 2 Bassoon

- 2 1st E_b Alto Saxophone
- 2 2nd El- Alto Saxophone
- 1 Bb Tenor Saxophone
- 1 Eb Baritone Saxophone
- 3 1st B_b Trumpet
- 3 2nd B_b Trumpet
- 3 3rd B_b Trumpet
- 2 1st F Horn
- 2 2nd F Horn
- 2 1st Trombone
- 2 2nd Trombone
- 2 3rd Trombone

- 2 Baritone
- 1 Baritone Treble Clef
- 4 Tuba
- Mallet Percussion
 (Bells, Chimes)
- Timpani
- 2 Percussion I
 - (Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Optional Crash Cymbals, Triangle)
- 2 Percussion II
 (Wind Chimes, Gong, Crash
 Cymbal), Triangle, Suspended

PROGRAM NOTES

The traditional hymn "In the Bleak Midwinter" was composed by Gustav Holst in 1908. It is the second movement of *The Holst Winter Suite* and the work that inspired the creation of the three-movement tribute to Holst. Ms. Alta Sue Hawkins, a retired Virginia band director, suggested the title to Robert W. Smith as a possible symphonic band setting. Unfortunately, Ms. Hawkins passed away before the work was complete.

In remembrance of Ms. Hawkins, Mr. Smith re-scored the work for publication. Following an opening fanfare statement, the melody is first stated by a solo clarinet. The clarinet solo represents Ms. Hawkins, a clarinet player and teacher for more than three decades. The clarinet is joined by a French horn, euphonium, and a second French horn representing Ms. Hawkins and each of her three children on their chosen instruments. A woodwind choir followed by the full ensemble state the hauntingly beautiful melody for the final time. The composer uses the traditional American folk melody "Shenandoah" as the contrapuntal line representing Ms. Hawkins' birth and rest in the beautiful valley of Virginia.

In December of 1992, Mr. Smith married into the Hawkins family. His setting of "In the Bleak Midwinter" is dedicated to Ben, Chuck, and his wife Susan in loving memory of their mother, Alta Sue.

The first movement of *The Holst Winter Suite*, entitled "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" (BDM01048), is available through Alfred Music.



for Ben, Chuck and Susan, in loving memory of their Mother, Alta Sue Hawkins \overline{IN} \overline{THE} \overline{BLEAK} $\overline{MIDWINTER}$

























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