FULL CONDUCTOR SCORE

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Nighthawk

James Swearingen

Foundations Series

FOR BEGINNING BANDS!



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Sound Foundations Series (Grade levels 1/2 - 1)

The Sound Foundations Series is carefully designed and written to serve the performance needs of the beginning band program. In addition to providing quality performance literature for your concert program, each title in the series provides an appropriate musical setting for the conductor/teacher to reinforce musical concepts and skills that have been addressed in the first year of instruction. Written at two grade levels (1/2 and 1), the Sound Foundations Series provides a variety of musical works that employ the note and rhythm sequence used in most band method books. The Sound Foundations Series is a sound fundamental approach laying the foundation for a sound future.

Nighthawk James Swearingen

Instrumentation

| Conductor (full score) | 1 |
|--|----|
| Flute | 10 |
| Oboe | 2 |
| Bb Clarinet | 12 |
| Bb Bass Clarinet | 2 |
| Bassoon | 2 |
| Eb Alto Saxophone | 8 |
| Bb Tenor Saxophone | |
| Eb Baritone Saxophone | 2 |
| Bb Trumpet | |
| F Horn | 4 |
| Trombone/Baritone BC | 8 |
| Baritone TC | 2 |
| Tuba | 4 |
| Bells (opt. Vibes and Marimba) | 4 |
| Timpani | 1 |
| Percussion 1: Concert Toms, Bass Drum | 3 |
| Percussion 2: Sleigh Bells, Tambourine | |
| Piano/Keyboard (optional) | |
| | |

Program Notes

As the sun begins to set, the nighttime comes "to life" with spectacular displays that one can only imagine. Rarely noticed by the human eye is the evasive Nighthawk who soars above the wooded treetops. Without warning, he dives for the ground in an acrobatic manner while directing his attack toward an unsuspecting prey. In iust a matter of seconds the Nighthawk is there and, before you know it, he's suddenly gone.

Rehearsal Suggestions

- Mentally playing the musical silence at the start, and listening carefully to the percussion will allow measure 3 to be played in time and on time.
- Never allow the accompaniment to overshadow the melodic lines.
- At measure 11, the Tom-Toms should bring out the accented notes by de-emphasizing the unaccented notes.
- Be careful not to rush the music at measure 29.
- All accented notes should be played with proper spacing.
- Above all else, have as much fun performing this piece as I did composing it.

James Sweamyle.

About the Composer



James Swearingen's talents as a performer, composer/arranger and educator include a background of extensive training and experience. He has earned degrees from Bowling Green State University and The Ohio State University. Mr. Swearingen is currently Professor of Music, Department Chair of Music Education and one of several resident composers at Capital University located in Columbus, Ohio. He also serves as a staff arranger for the famed Ohio State University Marching Band. Prior to his appointment at

Capital in 1987, he spent eighteen years teaching instrumental music in the public schools of central Ohio. His first teaching assignment took him to the community of Sunbury, Ohio. He then spent fourteen years as Director of Instrumental Music at Grove City High School where his marching, concert and jazz bands all received acclaim for their high standards of performing excellence.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Mr. Swearingen manages to be very active as a guest conductor, adjudicator and educational clinician. Appearances have included trips throughout the United States, as well as Japan, Australia, Europe, Canada and The Republic of China.

Mr. Swearingen's numerous contributions for band have been enthusiastically received by school directors, student performers and audiences worldwide. With over 550 published works, he has written band compositions and arrangements that reflect a variety of musical forms and styles. Many of his pieces, including 105 commissioned works, have been chosen for contest and festival lists. He is a recipient of several ASCAP awards for published compositions and in 1992 was selected as an Accomplished Graduate of the Fine and Performing Arts from Bowling Green State University. In March of 2000, he was invited to join The American Bandmasters Association, considered to be the most prestigious bandmaster organization in the world. Mr. Swearingen received the 2002 Community Music Educator Award given annually by the Columbus Symphony Orchestra. In that same year, he became conductor of the Grove City Community Winds. This highly talented ensemble consists of many fine musicians from the central Ohio area. On June 20, 2009, The American School Band Directors Association, Inc., presented Mr. Swearingen with the A. Austin Harding Award. This prestigious award is presented annually by the organization and is reflective of valuable and dedicated service to the school bands of America. In 2011, the Ohio Chapter (Mu) of Phi Beta Mu honored him with their Hall of Fame Award. His most recent recognition, the Distinguished Service Award, was presented to him at the 2014 OMEA Professional Development Conference. It should be noted that he is also a member of numerous professional and honorary organizations including OMEA, NAfME, ASBDA, Phi Beta Mu and Pi Kappa Lambda.

Many of Mr. Swearingen's most popular band compositions have been recorded by the prestigious Washington Winds and are available on Walking Frog Records compact discs: His recordings include In All Its Glory, Exaltation, Celebration For Winds And Percussion, The Light Of Dawn, and the newest release, Flight of Valor.

Recording Available



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NIGHTHAWK



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