TRAVELIN' MUSIC

Pierre La Plante

GRADE: **2.5**

BARNHOUSE COMMAND SERIES For Concert Band





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Instrumentation

Full Conductor Score	1	2nd B ^J , Trumpet	5
Flute	10		
Oboe	2	Trombone	6
1st B ^{J,} Clarinet		Baritone BC	2
2nd B ^J Clarinet		Baritone TC	2
B ^J , Bass Clarinet	2	Tuba	4
Bassoon	2	Mallet Percussion: Bells, Xylophone	4
E ^J Alto Saxophone	6	Timpani	
B [,] Tenor Saxophone		Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum	
E Baritone Saxophone			
1st B ^J , Trumpet	5	Percussion 3: Woodblock, Temple Blocks, Cowbell	3

Program Notes

Travelin' Music is based upon a fiddle tune known as "The Arkansas Traveler," composed in the early 1800's and attributed to Colonel Sanford Faulkner. Its tunefulness and singable nature has resulted in many instrumental arrangements and song settings. For a while it was the official state song of Arkansas. Because the tune is mainly pentatonic (using only 5 notes) it is very playable for young bands using many of the first notes learned on their instruments.

Rehearsal Suggestions

This is an excellent piece to transition from 4/4 to cut time or alla breve, as the piece will work from quarter note = 156-160 bpm, all the way up to a half note of 94+ bpm. Each section of the band has a turn with melody, so the conductor will eventually decide on a tempo that is comfortable for everyone to play. I hope you enjoy rehearsing and performing **Travelin' Music**.

About the Composer



A lifelong student and teacher of music, **Pierre La Plante** was born September 25, 1943, in West Allis, Wis. He grew up in Sturgeon Bay, Wis. where he was active in the high school band, choir, and theater. La Plante received a Music Clinic tuition scholarship to attend the University of Wisconsin at Madison, where he earned his Bachelor of Music (1967) and Master of Music (1972) degrees.

In the fall of 1967, La Plante began his teaching career in the Blanchardville, Wis. public school system (now Pecatonica Area Schools). There, he directed the high school band and chorus. In 1972, La Plante went to Prescott, Wis. to direct the high school concert band, marching band, and choir. He returned to Blanchardville in 1975 to teach general music for grades K—6 and beginning band. He retired from Blanchardville in 2001.

His many years of working with beginning band students has proven very helpful when writing music that is accessible to young players. An accomplished composer, La Plante's catalog of musical works has been performed by high school bands in Australia, Europe,

Japan, Saudi Arabia, and the United States. His first piece, Western Portrait, was published in 1976. His music is published by Daehn Publications as well as Kjos, Shawnee, Ludwig, Grand Mesa, and Bourne. In addition to band works, Bourne and G. Schirmer have published several settings of Wisconsin folksongs.

La Plante has adjudicated for solo and ensemble contests and played bassoon in regional orchestras, including the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra and the Beloit-Janesville Symphony. He is currently a member of MENC and ASCAP, and a former member of the Madison Wind ensemble. He resides in Oregon, Wis. with his wife, Laurie, where he enjoys gardening, cooking, reading, and spending time with his family. His daughters, Amy and Elizabeth, enjoy careers in graphic design and teaching, respectively. He also has three grandchildren, Emily, Parker, and Kate.

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