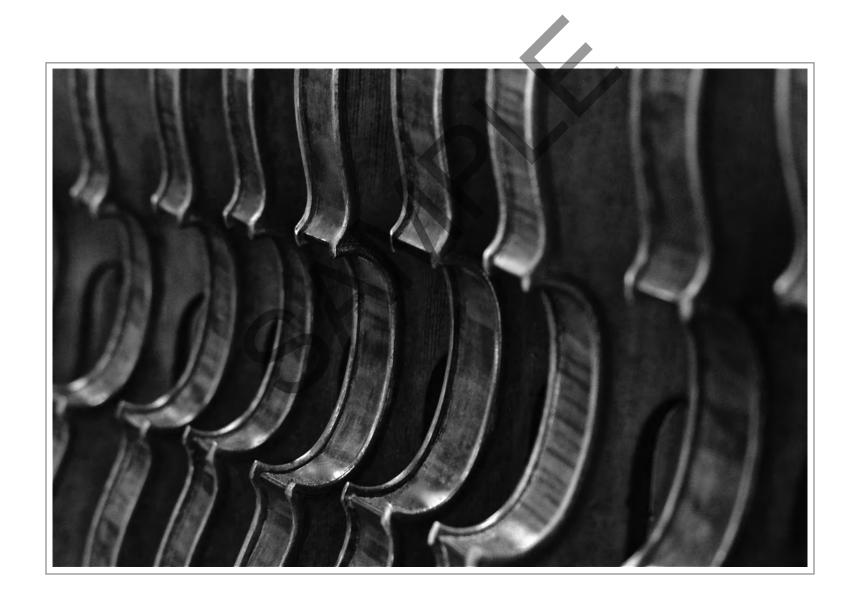
William Camphouse

A Somerset Lament and Reel



The Composer



William Camphouse is engaged in music making with student, community-based and professional performing ensembles throughout a career that continues to provide inspiration, enjoyment and an opportunity to work with similarly motivated people. Throughout his professional life he has been influenced by music educators that served as effective role models, by supportive colleagues, by a family always engaged in music making and by a belief that meaningful music is a powerful communicative device for the enlightenment and pleasure of humankind. In addition to service as a public school music educator, Camphouse developed and led a comprehensive music program at Kaskaskia College in Centralia, Illinois preparing students in foundation level music coursework as well as making a vital contribution to the cultural life of the community. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois, was awarded a Morris Doctoral Fellowship from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and studied conducting with John Paynter (Northwestern University) and Katherine Comet (St. Louis Symphony).

His interest in composition and arranging has been ongoing and has resulted in a number of commissioned and published works for orchestra and concert band with many based on regionally inspired themes. He was awarded the Illinois Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters' Fraternity Outstanding Composition Award, appears as

a festival clinician throughout the mid-west, is a frequent presenter at the Illinois Music Educators Association All-State conference and maintains an active schedule of performing and conducting activities. Extra-musical interests include service as Village President of Perry, Illinois where he and his wife, Kristine, are restoring their Civil War era family home. They are the parents of three sons and grandparents of three active children.

Instrumentation List (Set C)

- 8 Ist Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- I Full Conductor Score

Additional scores and parts are available.

To hear a recording of this piece or any other Kjos publication, go to www.kjos.com.

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The Composition

A Somerset Lament and Reel is cast of original melodic ideas in ABA form (slow-fast-slow) with modal (dorian) tonality and a feel akin to the native music of the British Isles. It is not programmatic, but rather it is intended as an homage to George Sainton Kay Butterworth, and is composed in the style he championed. The "Lament" is a lyrical, ballad-like statement. It is a folk song without words using melodic contour, triple meter, dynamic contrast, and implied rubato to suggest simplicity, emotional sincerity, and tragedy. "Reel" is a rambunctious 6/8 dance piece whereby the tune is stated, then recurs in varied form every eight measures or so. When the compound meter elides into common time at *L'istesso* tempo, a transition occurs and the perpetual motion of the dance ceases. The Lament melody reappears, this time in 4/4 and gradually returns to a somber *Andante* at measure 143. Additional melodic material emerges from Lament and is introduced in one final burst of intensity. Soon after, tempo and dynamic level ebb and the piece ends quietly in unison.

Special Background Notes

A Somerset Lament and Reel is written as a reminder of World War I, that "War to End All Wars," 100 years after the signing of The Treaty of Versailles. The war's staggering sum of blood and plunder, while statistically impressive, doesn't begin to reflect the damage and loss incurred on a personal level. Those lingering "what if" questions regarding the promise and potential of young warriors cut down in their prime shall always remain. Examining and honoring the brief life of English composer and military soldier George Sainton Kay Butterworth (1885-1916) is a valuable case in point.

Butterworth was born in London, showed musical aptitude early in life, received formal education at Eton and Oxford, and developed professional skills as a performer, composer, and music critic (for *The Times*, a British daily newspaper). Like the generation of his contemporaries and acquaintances that included Cecil Sharp, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Gustav Holst, Percy Grainger, and Adrian Boult, Butterworth developed a strong interest in traditional British folk song and dance. He spent significant time trekking about the British countryside collecting and recording regional tunes from local folk musicians. While he did not create a large number of compositions, many of the best known and most representative works reflect his musicological field work in terms of style and content. An orchestral work in particular remains one of Butterworth's most popular, *The Banks of Green Willow* (1913). It was premiered in 1914 and was likely the last time he heard his own music performed before heading off to war.

When World War I broke out, Butterworth, now 2nd Lieutenant Butterworth of the 13th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, volunteered for military duty. He was sent to France, led his platoon in trench warfare during the Battle of the Somme, and in the early hours of August 5, 1916 was shot and killed by a German sniper. Butterworth was only 31 years old at his death. His *The Banks of Green Willow* has come to represent the sacrifice of his generation and an anthem for all "Unknown Soldiers" lost in battle.



Britain's Mountainous Countryside

A Somerset Lament and Reel

Full Conductor Score William Camphouse Approx. performance time—5:25 Andante (= 76) Violins Viola Cello mp String Bass 13 poco rit. a tempo Vlns. mpVla. mpCello Str. Bass mpVlns. subito p subito p 8 Vla. subito pCello subito $oldsymbol{p}$ Str. Bass

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 * Cello cue sized notes are optional and are provided to support the upper bass line as needed.











