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FJH DEVELOPING BAND

Grade 1.5

PROJECT MERCURY

Mekel Rogers

Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score	2 - Baritone/ Euphonium
8 - Flute	2 - Baritone T.C.
2 - Oboe	4 - Tuba
2 - Bassoon	2 - Bells
5 - B $\flat$ Clarinet 1	1 - Opt. Timpani
5 - B $\flat$ Clarinet 2	4 - Percussion 1 Snare Drum Bass Drum
2 - B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet	2 - Percussion 2 Crash Cymbals Suspended Cymbal
4 - E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone	3 - Percussion 3 Triangle Brake Drum Shaker
2 - B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone	
2 - E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone	
4 - B $\flat$ Trumpet 1	
4 - B $\flat$ Trumpet 2	
4 - F Horn	
4 - Trombone	

T H E
F · J · H
M U S I C
C O M P A N Y
I N C.

Frank J. Hackinson

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The Composer

Mekel Rogers has been involved in music education as a middle school band director since 1995. He is a *summa cum laude* graduate of Appalachian State University, a charter member of the Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps, and the founding conductor of the Union Symphony Youth Orchestra. He currently serves as the director of bands for Weddington Middle School in Union County, North Carolina. Mekel was inducted into the American School Band Directors Association in 2008.

Mekel frequently serves as a guest clinician at various honor band clinics and university invitationals. He is also a respected adjudicator for many concert band and marching band events. His compositions have been performed at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, and at various concert band festivals, honor band clinics, and other music educator conferences throughout the United States. Mekel resides in North Carolina with his wife and daughter.

About the Music

Project Mercury was NASA's first manned spaceflight program. The project launched six manned missions between 1961 and 1963, establishing the foundation that eventually sent the first man to the moon.

Astronaut Alan Shepard commanded the first Project Mercury spaceflight on May 5, 1961 in the rocket ship named the *Freedom 7*. The flight launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida and lasted approximately 15 minutes before splashing down in the Bahamas about 300 miles away, distinguishing Shepard as the first American in space.

The composition *Project Mercury* seeks to capture the spirit of Alan Shepard's landmark space flight. The piece begins with the blastoff of *Freedom 7* and its ascent into the atmosphere. The percussion timbres and vocal effects in the winds depict the metallic sounds of the rocket gantry and the various gases used during liftoff. The main theme which begins at measure 8 should be played detached and with a sense of controlled urgency. The music rises and falls both melodically and dynamically throughout the piece to portray the turbulent atmospheric currents during the ascent and reentry.

R. Mekel Rogers

PROJECT MERCURY

Fast (♩ = c. 144)

4

MEKEL ROGERS
(ASCAP)

Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

B♭ Clarinets 1 2

B♭ Bass Clarinet

E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpets 1 2

F Horn

Trombone

Baritone/Euphonium

Tuba

Bells

Opt. Timpani (G, D) *pp*

Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum) S.D. *pp* B.D. *pp*

Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals) Sus. Cym. w/ yarn mallets *pp* Cr. Cym. *ff*

Percussion 3 (Triangle, Brake Drum, Shaker) Tri. *pp* Brake Drum *ff*

Fast (♩ = c. 144)

4

2 3 4 5



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8

Fl. Shhhhhh *p*

Ob. Shhhhhh *p*

Bsn. Shhhhhh *p*

Cls. 1 2 *mf*

B. Cl. Shhhhhh *p*

A. Sax. Shhhhhh *p*

T. Sax. Shhhhhh *p*

B. Sax. Shhhhhh *p*

8

Tpts. 1 2 Shhhhhh *p*

Hn. Shhhhhh *p*

Tbn. Shhhhhh *p*

Bar./ Euph. Shhhhhh *p*

Tuba Shhhhhh *p*

Bells Shhhhhh *p*

Timp. *p*

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 2 *mf* *p*

Perc. 3 *p*

6 7 8 9

[illegible]

This page of a musical score is for a large orchestra. It contains staves for the following instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets (Cls. 1 and 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpets (Tpts. 1 and 2), Horns (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Baritone/Euphonium (Bar./Euph.), Tuba, Bells, Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and rehearsal marks numbered 14, 15, 16, and 17. The notation includes various musical symbols like notes, rests, and articulation marks.

This musical score page contains measures 18 through 21 of a symphony. The instrumentation includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 and 2 (Cls. 1, 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpets 1 and 2 (Tpts. 1, 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Baritone/Euphonium (Bar./Euph.), Tuba, Bells, Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measures 18 and 19 feature complex woodwind and brass passages, including triplets and slurs. Measures 20 and 21 show a more rhythmic and harmonic texture, with prominent percussion parts. The percussion section includes a variety of instruments, with Perc. 1 and 3 having specific rhythmic patterns marked with 'x'.

Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
Cls. 1
2
B. Cl.
A. Sax.
T. Sax.
B. Sax.
Tpts. 1
2
Hn.
Tbn.
Bar./
Euph.
Tuba
Bells
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Perc. 3

18 19 20 21

25

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

25

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar./
Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Shaker

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

f

f

f

mp

22 23 24

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar./
Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

26

27

28

29

30

mp

p *mf*

Sus. Cym.

mp

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for measures 26 through 30. The score is written for a large ensemble. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 and 2 (Cls. 1, 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax.). The brass section includes Trumpets 1 and 2 (Tpts. 1, 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Baritone/Euphonium (Bar./Euph.), and Tuba. The percussion section includes Bells, Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be 4/4. The score shows various musical notations including rests, eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano), *p* (piano), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). Percussion 1 has a specific rhythmic pattern in measures 27 and 28. Percussion 2 has a suspended cymbal (Sus. Cym.) effect in measures 29 and 30. Percussion 3 has a continuous rhythmic pattern throughout the measures.

33

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar./ Euph.

Tuba

Bells *mp*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *p* *mf*

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

31 32 33 34 35

Detailed description: This is a page from a musical score, page 10, showing measures 31 through 35. The score is for a large ensemble including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 31 and 32 are marked with measure numbers 31 and 32 below the staff. Measure 33 is marked with a box containing the number 33 above the staff. Measures 34 and 35 are marked with measure numbers 34 and 35 below the staff. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet in C (Cls.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax.). The brass section includes Trumpets (Tpts.), Horns (Hn.), Trombones (Tbn.), Baritone/Euphonium (Bar./ Euph.), and Tuba. The percussion section includes Bells, Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The Flute and Oboe parts have a melodic line starting in measure 31, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Clarinet in C part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Bass Clarinet part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Alto Saxophone part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Tenor Saxophone part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Baritone Saxophone part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Trumpets part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Horns part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Trombones part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Baritone/Euphonium part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Tuba part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Bells part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Timpani part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mp* dynamic marking. The Percussion 1 part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *p* dynamic marking. The Percussion 2 part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mf* dynamic marking. The Percussion 3 part has a melodic line starting in measure 33, with a *mf* dynamic marking.

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Cls. 1 *mf*
2

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

Tpts. 1 *mf*
2

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Bar./
Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Bells *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1 *p* *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

36 38 39 40

41

div.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

41

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar./ Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Sus. Cym. w/ yarn mallets

41 42 43 44 mp

B1511

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1 2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar./ Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

50 51 52 53

f

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a large orchestra, covering measures 50 through 53. The score is written for 14 staves, each representing a different instrument or section. The instruments listed on the left are: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 and 2 (Cls. 1 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpets 1 and 2 (Tpts. 1 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Baritone/Euphonium (Bar./ Euph.), Tuba, Bells, Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be 4/4 based on the notation. The score shows various musical notations including eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and rests. There are some dynamic markings, such as *f* (forte) under the Bells staff in measure 53. The page number 14 is at the top left, and the measure numbers 50, 51, 52, and 53 are at the bottom.

This musical score page, numbered 15, contains measures 54 through 57. The instrumentation includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 and 2 (Cls. 1/2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpets 1 and 2 (Tpts. 1/2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Baritone/Euphonium (Bar./Euph.), Tuba, Bells, Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). Measures 54 and 55 feature a complex woodwind and brass texture with various articulations like accents and slurs. Measure 56 shows a transition with some instruments resting. Measure 57 concludes the section with a final chordal texture. A rehearsal mark '57' is placed above the Flute staff at the beginning of measure 57. Measure numbers 54, 55, 56, and 57 are printed below the Percussion 3 staff.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cls. 1
2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar./
Euph.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

54 55 56 57

58