

The Black Cat

For Concert Band, Grade 1.5
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Flute/Oboe
5 - Bb Clarinet
5 - Bb Clarinet (F Horn Double)
2 - Bb Bass Clarinet
6 - Eb Alto Saxophone
2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone
2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone

4 - Bb Trumpet 1
4 - Bb Trumpet 2
4 - F Horn
6 - Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon
2 - Euphonium T.C.
4 - Tuba

2 - Mallets (opt. Synth)
2 - Timpani (4)
2 - Percussion 1&2: P1: Snare Drum/Ride Cymbal/Cowbell
P2: Bass Drum/Wind Chimes
2 - Percussion 3: 2 Woodblocks
2 - Percussion 4: Crash Cymbal/Vibraslap/Slapstick/Suspended Cymbal
1 - Sound FX

Full Set - \$55.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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GRADE .5 - 1.5

**Mechanical Monsters (.5)
Spring (1)
Beginners Rock (1)
Groovy-8 (1)
The Dragon Lord (1.5)
The Lake of Sorrows (1.5)
Santa the Barbarian (1.5)
A Festival of Carols (1.5)
Starfire Fanfare (1.5)
Fanfare for the 16th Empire (1.5)
Circuit Breaker (1.5)**

GRADE 2 - 2.5

**Dominion (2)
Creer (2)
Spero (2)
Hillside March (2)
Earthdawn (2.5)
Shadow Cove March (2.5)**

GRADE 3 - 3.5

**Affirmation (3)
...music speaks (3)
On an Olde English Carol (3)
Gallowglass (3)
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (3.5)**

GRADE 4

**Utopia (4)
Providence (4)
Havana Nights (4)
Vanishing Point (4)
Deus Ex Machina (4.5)
The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse
(4.5)**

GRADE 5

**Stonewall: 1969 (5)
unBroken (5)**

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLES

**Fur Elise (Grade 2)
Taiko (Grade 3)
3x3 (Grade 3)**

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Program Notes

I am a VERY superstitious person. I knock on wood. I throw a pinch of salt over my shoulder. I avoid breaking mirrors, walking under ladders, and I cling to a four leaf clover as if it were a ward against all evil.

However, I do NOT feel this way about Black Cats. While it is true that I am primarily a dog person, I have always loved cats, but I have also discovered you have to love dogs and cats for completely different reasons. In general, dogs are so loyal, so agreeable, so eager to please, and always so happy to see you.

But not cats. Cats are different.

I have three cats right now: Mask (she is moody, mistrustful, and bossy), Chatty (he is sweet natured, docile, and talkative), and Scotty (he is playful, mischievous, and curious). This trio of felines are great companions and usually hang out in my office while I'm working, judging every note I write, crawling across my desk at inopportune moments, sitting on my shoulder at times, and generally causing mayhem...and I wouldn't have it any other way.

The idea for *The Black Cat* was born on a Friday 13th (August 13th, 2021 to be exact). I was musing on the "bad luck" that the day was supposed to bring and had just begun working on a new piece when Scotty (orange, not black) got tangled in some cables and unplugged my computer, making me lose the new file. Bad luck indeed. After I had chased him out of my office, I restarted my computer and wrote a 13-note theme which became the basis for this work.

The Black Cat uses a 13 note theme to depict the "bad luck" that such creatures are supposed to portend. The piece uses staccato notes and chromaticism to illustrate their sneaky nature, and to create a more eerie and ominous atmosphere. Cat yowls and hissing may be heard at moments, as well as the way that cats' temperaments may change like the weather. For the style, I owe a huge debt to two composers I admire: Edvard Grieg (*In the Hall of the Mountain King*) and Danny Elfman (*Beetlejuice*, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*).

The Black Cat Consortium

This work was supported and premiered by a large consortium of schools and directors. It is incredibly humbling and validating to know that so many support your work, and I am forever in their debt. To those organizations, I want to say "thank you." Thank you for letting me follow my compositional muse and joining me on this journey into the world of superstition and midnight prowls. I hope you have enjoyed it as much as I have.

A full list of schools and directors is provided in the following pages.

About the Composer



Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor of Music Education from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied composition with Dr. Tom O'Connor, before returning to Arkansas State University to earn his Master's in Music Composition, studying with Dr. Tom O'Connor and Dr. Tim Crist. From 2001 to 2013, he served as the Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas.

Mr. Standridge is currently published by Grand Mesa Music, Alfred Music, FJH Music, Wingert-Jones Music, BandWorks Publications, Twin Towers Music, and Northeastern Music Publications. Mr. Standridge has had several of his pieces performed internationally, and has had numerous works selected to the J.W. Pepper's Editor's Choice and Bandworld Top 100 lists. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* also published are included in *Teaching Music through Performance in Band* series. He has had several works performed at the Midwest Music Clinic in Chicago, IL. His work *Art(isms)* was premiered by the Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Mr. Standridge is also a contributing composer for Alfred Music's *Sound Innovations: Ensemble Development* series. His music is gaining recognition as worthwhile literature for concert festivals and performances across the United States and internationally.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the Marching Band Editor for Grand Mesa Music Publishers. He is in demand as a conductor, clinician, drill designer, composer, and music arranger for the marching arts. He is also a freelance artist, photographer, and writer. He lives in Jonesboro, AR with his family. For more information about Mr. Standridge, visit his website at:

www.randallstandridge.com

Consortium Members

Director Name	School	City State
Megan Acosta	William D. Slider Middle School	El Paso, TX
Emma Angoli	Mukwonago High School	Mukwonago, WI
Amy Arnett-Tomasek	Highland Local Schools	Marengo, OH
Ivan Aviles	Temecula Middle School	Temecula, CA
Madylin Barker	Fennville Middle School	Fennville, MI
Jacob Barnby	Atlanta Community Schools	Atlanta, MI
Reynaldo Benitez	John H. Wood, Jr. Middle School	San Antonio, TX
Amy Beres	Howard W. Bishop Middle School	Gainesville, FL
Elizabeth Betts	W.N. Clark Middle School	Fayette, MO
Amanda Bingham	A.C. Crews Middle School	Lawrenceville , GA
Jordan Black	Leo Jr/Sr HS	Leo-Cedarville, IN
Danielle Boor	Alice Smith/Glen Lake Elementary Schools	Hopkins, MN
Kathryn Bredwell	Lowell Middle School	Lowell, MI
Kelley Burroughs/ Spencer Hughes	Ocoee Middle School	Cleveland , TN
Virginia Calderon/ Angela Dominguez/Alyssa Farias	Jefferson Middle School	San Antonio, TX
Katie Clogg	East Stroudsburg High School South	East Stroudsburg , PA
Justin Condelli	Holy Redeemer School	Marshall, MN
Jaron Cox	Falls Lake Academy	Creedmoor, NC
Lindsey Crouch	Umatilla Middle School	Umatilla , FL
Anthony Dahl	Manteca Unified School District	Manteca, CA
Missy Danforth	Highland Middle school	Fort Worth, TX
Jared Daubert	Cedar Crest Middle School	Lebanon, PA
Jefferson Doyle	Woodstock Middle School	Woodstock, GA
Lance Dubay	Kingsley Middle School	Kingsley, MI
Blair Dyal	Tucker Creek Middle School	Havelock, NC
Stephen Elford/ Jeff Martini	Bayless Junior High	Saint Louis, MO
Mason England	Manor Middle School	Manor, TX
Trey English	Feagin Mill Middle School	Warner Robins, GA
Cathy Ettle	Sierra Middle School	Stockton, ca
Lisa Farrell	Eaton Middle School	Hampton , VA
Nicole Finkle	Eisenhower Middle School	Everett, WA
Heather Fitzpatrick	White Lake Middle School	White Lake, Mi
Robert Flores	John P. Ojeda Middle School	Austin, TX
Justin J. Frerich	Kimball Area High School	Kimball, MN
Andrew Garcia	Nessacus Middle School	Dalton, MA
Elizabeth Glynn		Plattsmouth , NE
Mike Gomez	Woodland Heights Middle School	Mooresville, NC
Margaret Granado	Ferris ISD	Ferris, TX
Adam Gresham	Richards Middle School	Lawrenceville, GA
Eric Griffin	Mission Trail Middle School	Olathe, KS
Carson Grove	Oakwood Junior High School	Danville, IL
Joe Guarr	Hartland Middle School at Ore Creek	Hartland, MI
Annette Hackbarth	Dakota Jr / Sr High School	Dakota, IL
Carl Hautmann	Northern Middle School Calvert County	Owings, MD
Derek Hebert	The Academy	Westminster, CO
Brad Heckman	Mount Vernon R5 Middle School	Mount Vernon , MO
Brandon Ivie	Boyne City Middle School	Boyne City, MI
Cary Jacobs	Nichols Middle School	Evanston, IL
Bryan Johnson	Braham Area High School	Braham, MN
Camilla Keever	Indian Creek Middle School	Covington , GA
Tiffany Kimbro	Halls Middle School	Knoxville, TN
Michelle King	Beckville Junior High	Becvville, TX
Diane Klaczynski	Hillview Junior High School	Pittsburg , CA
Cody Knott	Caldwell ISD Bands	Caldwell , TX
Dan Knowles	Big Hollow Middle School	Ingleside, IL
Brian Kopfhammer	Crivitz Middle School	Crivitz , WI
Samantha Kovach	Greendale Middle School	Greendale, WI
Troy Kowalski	Friedell Middle School	Rochester, MN
Jason Levy	Campus International School	Cleveland, OH

Jessica Light	Guntersville Middle School	Guntersville, AL
Benjamin Lynch	Sierra Verde STEAM Academy	Glendale , AZ
Melissa Lyons	American International School of Budapest	Nagykovacsi, HU
Brian Mahler	East Sac County Middle School	Sac City, IA
Jayme Malsom	Holton Schools	Holton, KS
Andrew Maust	Chippens Hill Middle School	Bristol, CT
Bethany Maxfield	Joel P. Jensen Middle School	West Jordan, UT
Joanne McGowan	Greene County Middle School	Snow Hill, NC
William J. Molineaux	The Osceola County School for the Arts	Kissimmee, FL
Christopher Morgan	C.E. McCall Middle School	Montoursville, PA
Josh Muller	Pueblo County HS	Pueblo, CO
Raelynn Najera	Lexington Middle School	Lexington , TX
Stephanie Obrian	Barr-Reeve Middle/High School	Montgomery , IN
Rebecca Othmer	Holland MS - BPUSD STEM Academy	Baldwin Park , CA
Collin Otteson	Miller School District	Miller, SD
Tammy Pearson-Horner	Cody Middle School	Cody, WY
April Peterson	Kuna Middle School	Kuna, ID
Aaron Pettit	Glen Rose High School	Malvern, AR
Sharon Phipps	Spofford Pond School	Boxford, MA
Matthew Provino	Sierra Vista MS	La Puente, CA
Tracy Puckett-Casey	PikeView Middle School	Princeton , WV
Allison Reatherford	Attea Middle School	Glenview , IL
Nick Ries	Rapid City East Middle School	Rapid City, SD
Charles Salanitro	Computech Middle School	Fresno, Ca
Jessica Sanford Grill	Toms River Intermediate North	Toms River, NJ
Mary Santarelli	Labay Middle School	Houston, TX
Patricia Sheppard	Liberty middle school	Canton, MI
Michael Silvagnoli	Koda Middle Scho	Clifton Park, NY
David Sismey	Normanhurst Public School	Normanhurst, NSW
David Sismey	Beecroft Public School	Beecroft, NSW
Christina Soper	Stapley JHS	Mesa, AZ
John Stevenson	South Carroll High School	Sykesville, MD
Elsie Stott	Truman Middle School	Albuquerque , NM
Kerry Sweet-Seip	Pleasant View Middle School	Pueblo, CO
Kelly Taylor	Litchfield Middle school	Litchfield , MN
Kim Thompson	Williston Central School	Williston, VT
Hannah Vinney	Wedgefield School	Orlando, FL
Braeden Weyhrich	Hinton Community School	Hinton, IA
Kathryn Williams	Schofield Middle School	Aiken, SC
Jessica Wolf	Somers Public Schools	Somers, CT
Brian York	Star City	Star City, AR
Christopher Zwarych	Hackettstown Middle School	Hackettstown, NJ

Score
Grade 1.5
Duration: 2:00

The Black Cat

Randall D. Standridge
(ASCAP)

Dedicated to my beloved companions: Mask, Scotty, and Chatty, who have the darkest of hearts

With Great Trepidation and Fear ♩=128

[illegible]

[illegible]

Fl. Ob. *mf* *f*
 Cl. *mf* *f* *mf*
 Cl. (F. H. Dbl.) *mf* *f*
 A. Sx. *mf* *f*
 T. Sx. *mf* *f*
 Tpt. 1-2 *mf* *f* Open
 Hn. *mf* *f*
 Trb. Euph. Bssn. *mf* *f* *mf*
 L.R. Tuba *mf* *f* *mf*
 Mal./Syn. *mf* *f* *mf*
 Timp. *mf* *f*
 Perc.1/2 *mf* *f* Wind Chimes *mf*
 Perc.3 *mf*
 Perc. 4 *p* *mf* Suspended Cymbal (yarn mallets)
 SFX

Measures 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

29

Fl. Ob. *mf* *subito p* Cat Hiss

Cl. *subito p* Cat Hiss

Cl. (F. H. Dbl.) *mf* *f* Cat Hiss

A. Sx. *mf* *f* Cat Hiss

T. Sx. *mf* *f* Cat Hiss

Tpt. 1-2 *f* *mf* Cat Hiss

Hn. *mf* *f* Cat Hiss

Trb. Euph. Bssn. *f* *mf* Cat Hiss

L.R. Tuba *f* *mf* Cat Hiss

Mal./Syn. *subito p* Cat Hiss

Timp. *f* *mf* Cat Hiss

Perc.1/2 B.D. *f* *mf* Cat Hiss

Perc.3 *mf* *mf* Cr. Cym. > (ch) Cat Hiss

Perc.4 *p* *mf* *f* Cat Hiss

SFX 02_Cat_Hiss

36

[illegible]

[illegible]

52

Fl. Ob. *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

Cl. *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

Cl. (F. H. Dbl.) *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

A. Sx. *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

T. Sx. *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

Tpt. 1-2 *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

Hn. *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

Trb. Euph. Bssn. *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

L.R. Tuba *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

Mal./Syn. *mf* *f*

Timp. *mf* *mf* *f* *fp* *f* *mp*

Perc. 1/2 *mf* *f* *fp* *f*

Perc. 3

Perc. 4 Cr. Cym. *f*

SFX

58

Fl. Ob. Cat Hiss Cat Hiss
 Cl. Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss *mf* *f*
 Cl. (F. H. Dbl.) Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss Div. *mf* *p* *f*
 A. Sx. Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss Div. *mf* *p* *f*
 T. Sx. Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss Div. *mf* *p* *f*
 Tpt. 1-2 Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss Div. *mf* *p* *f*
 Hn. Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss Div. *mf* *p* *f*
 Trb. Euph. Bssn. Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss *mf* *p* *f*
 L.R. Tuba Cat Hiss *p* Cat Hiss *mf* *p* *f*
 Mal./Syn. *mf* *f*
 Timp. *p* *pp* *f*
 Perc.1/2 *p* *f*
 Perc.3 *p* *f*
 Perc.4 Vibraslap *f* Slapstick
 SFX 03_Cat_Hiss_Softer 03_Cat_Hiss_Softer 01_Cat_Yowl *f*