

The Ash Grove

For Concert Band, Grade 2-2.5
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score	4 - Bb Trumpet 1
8 - Flute	4 - Bb Trumpet 2
2 - Oboe	6 - F Horn
2 - Bassoon	3 - Trombone 1
5 - Bb Clarinet 1	3 - Trombone 2
5 - Bb Clarinet 2	4 - Euphonium B. C.
2 - Bb Bass Clarinet	2 - Euphonium T. C.
8 - Eb Alto Saxophone	4 - Tuba
2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone	
2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone	

2 - Bells
2 - Vibraphone
2 - Chimes
2 - Timpani
2 - Percussion 1: Ride Cymbal/Snare Drum
2 - Percussion 2: Triangle/Bass Drum/Sleigh Bells
2 - Percussion 3: Suspended Cymbal/Finger Cymbals/Crash Cymbals/Wind Chimes/Tambourine

Full Set - \$70.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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The Ash Grove

By Randall D. Standridge

Program Notes

I first fell in love with **The Ash Grove** years ago when I played the first movement of *Little English Suite* by Leroy Jackson. The moment I heard the tune—simple, elegant, and deeply lyrical—I was hooked. It's one of those melodies that feels like it's always been with you, even if you're hearing it for the first time.

Now, I know what some of you might be thinking: *This piece has been arranged dozens of times already... so why do another one?* Fair question.

For me, it came down to wanting to bring something personal to this beautiful melody—something that reflects my own voice as a composer and educator. I wanted to preserve the emotional warmth of the original tune while giving each section of the ensemble a moment to carry it. I also wanted to create a lyrical setting that included meaningful, expressive parts for the percussion section—not just background texture but an essential part of the story. Finally, I wanted the piece to explore the full emotional range of the melody: from sweetness and nostalgia to sorrow and, ultimately, a quiet sense of triumph. All of this is set in a flowing, fast 3/4 meter to keep the music moving and alive.

The piece opens with a clarinet solo, setting the tone with warmth and grace. From there, the melody is passed from voice to voice, supported by lush harmonies and carefully crafted textures. The percussion writing helps shape the emotional contour of the piece, bringing depth and energy to the ensemble's sound.

The Ash Grove was commissioned by the Mary D. Bradford High School Band of Kenosha, Wisconsin, and their director, Karl C. Mueller, in celebration of the band's 100th anniversary. I was honored to be part of such a meaningful milestone. Whether this is your hundredth time hearing this melody or the very first, I hope it brings as much joy to your ensemble and audience as it brought to me.

Peace, Love, and Music – Randy Standy

Rehearsal suggestions

- The tempo of this work is critical to its character. Having said that, the temptation with this work will be to play it slower than written. Please, don't do this. It robs the music of its flow and life. Trust me on this. I wrote it.
- Dynamics should be noticeable and taken to extremes.
- Percussion should be on the higher end of dynamic balance. Do not hide them.
- While the solo is written for clarinet, it is also cued in Alto Saxophone. Please use your strongest soloist in this regard.

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. In 2001, he began his tenure as Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas. He left this post in 2013 to pursue a career as a full-time composer and marching arts designer.

Mr. Standridge's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected for J.W. Pepper's editor's choice. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* have been included in the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band" series. He has had numerous works performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. The Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble premiered his work *Art(isms)* at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work *Stonewall: 1969* was premiered at the National LGBA conference in 2019. His *Symphony no.1: A Ghost Story* was premiered in 2023. In addition, Mr. Standridge's "unBroken Project," a musical initiative about mental health, has received widespread acclaim for its musical content and for providing opportunities to normalize discussions about mental health for music students and audiences.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the owner and editor of Randall Standridge Music, LLC and Grand Mesa Marching. He is in demand as an arranger/designer for the marching arts. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with his husband, Steven, and their very, very

spoiled pets. For more information about Mr. Standridge, visit his website at: www.randallstandridge.com

Score
Grade 2-2.5
Duration: 4:00

The Ash Grove

Traditional Welsh Folk Song
arr Randall D. Standridge
(ASCAP)

With nostalgia ♩=120

9

Flute *mf* *mp*

Oboe (Opt. Fl.2) *mp*

Bassoon *mf* *p* *mp*

B♭ Clarinet 1 *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

B♭ Clarinet 2 *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

B♭ Bass Clarinet *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

E♭ Alto Saxophone *mf* *p* *mp*

B♭ Tenor Saxophone *mf* *mp*

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *mf* *p*

B♭ Trumpet 1 *p*

B♭ Trumpet 2

Horn in F *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Trombone 1-2 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Euphonium *mf* *p* *mf*

Tuba *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Bells (hard acrylic mallets) *mp*

Vibraphone

Chimes *mf*

Timpani Tune: F, A, D, E (medium mallets)

Percussion 1 Ride Cymbal/ Snare Drum

Percussion 2 Triangle/ Bass Drum/ Sleigh Bells

Percussion 3 Suspended Cymbal/ Finger Cymbals/ Crash Cymbals/ Wind Chimes/ Tambourine

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

21 Slightly Faster ♩=128

This page of the musical score for 'The Ash Grove' covers measures 13 through 24. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument family. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets 1 and 2 (B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2), Bass Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Saxophones (A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx.), and Truets (B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2). The brass section includes Horns (Hn.), Trombones 1-2 (Tbn. 1-2), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The string section includes Basses (B.). The percussion section includes Bells (Bls.), Vibraphone (Vb.), Chimes (Ch.), Timpani (Timp.), and three Percussion parts (Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3). The score features dynamic markings such as *p*, *mf*, and *p* throughout. Performance instructions include 'Solo (opt. soli)' for the first Clarinet and 'B♭ Clarinet' for the Bass Clarinet. Percussion parts include 'Ride Cymbal (stick)', 'Triangle', and 'Sus. Cym. (yarn mallets)'. The tempo is marked '21 Slightly Faster' with a metronome marking of ♩=128. The key signature has two flats (B♭ and E♭).

The Ash Grove

25

33

Fl. *mf*

Ob.

Bsn. *mp*

B. Cl. 1

B. Cl. 2 *mp*

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx. *mp*

B. Sx.

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2

Perc. 3 *mp* Finger Cymbals

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36

41

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B. Cl. 1

B. Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Sus. Cym.

p

mf

mp

37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

The Ash Grove

49

56

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The instruments are listed on the left side of the page, with their respective staves. The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 (B. Cl. 1), Clarinet 2 (B. Cl. 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.), Trumpet 1 (B. Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (B. Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone 1-2 (Tbn. 1-2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba, Bassoon (Bls.), Violin (Vb.), and Chorus (Ch.). The second system includes Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The score features dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte), and includes performance instructions like "All" and "a2". The percussion parts include specific instructions for "Bass Drum" and "Crash Cymbals". The score is set in a key signature of three flats and a common time signature.

Suddenly Slower $\text{♩}=112$
rit.

The Ash Grove

78 Flowing $\text{♩}=120$

Fl. *pp* *p* Div.

Ob. *pp* *p* Div.

Bsn. *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *pp* *mf*

B♭ Cl. 2 *pp* *mf*

B. Cl. *mf* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

A. Sx. *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

T. Sx. *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

B. Sx. *mf* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mf* *p* *mp*

B♭ Tpt. 2 Div. *pp* *p* *mp*

Hn. *mf* *pp* *p*

Tbn. 1-2 *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Euph. *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Tuba *mf* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf*

Bls. *p* *mp*

Vb. *mf*

Ch. *mf*

Timp. *pp* *p* *mp*

Perc. 1 Ride Cym. *mf*

Perc. 2 Bass Drum *pp* *p* *pp* *mp*

Perc. 3 *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* Wind Chimes

82

90

Div.

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1 *mp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *mp*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. 1-2 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba

Bls. *mp*

Vb. *mp*

Ch. *mf*

Timp. *pp*

Perc. 1 Snare Drum *pp*

Perc. 2 *pp*

Perc. 3 Sus. Cym. *p* *mf*

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

B. Cl. 1

B. Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. *p*

B. Tpt. 1 *p* *mf*

B. Tpt. 2 *p* *mf*

Hn. *mf* (B)

Tbn. 1-2 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp. *pp*

Perc. 1 Snare Drum *pp* *mf*

Perc. 2 Triangle *mf*

Perc. 3 Wind Chimes *mf*

The Ash Grove

112

The musical score for 'The Ash Grove' is arranged for a full orchestra. The score is written in 3/4 time and features a variety of instruments. The woodwinds include Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet 1 (B. Cl. 1), Clarinet 2 (B. Cl. 2), Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), and Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.). The brass section consists of Trumpet 1 (B. Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (B. Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone 1-2 (Tbn. 1-2), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The strings include Basses (Bls.), Violins (Vb.), and Cellos (Ch.). The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), and Percussion 3 (Perc. 3). The score is marked with dynamics such as *p* (piano), *cresc.* (crescendo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), and *fp* (fortissimo). There are also markings for *Div.* (divisi) and *o2* (second octave). The score is divided into measures, with the page number 112 indicated at the top left and the measure numbers 112 through 121 at the bottom.

112

113

114

115

116

117

118

119

120

121

The Ash Grove

12

122 Grand ♩=112

rit.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument. The key signature is three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor) and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *p* (piano), and articulation marks like accents and slurs. The percussion section includes three parts: Perc. 1, Perc. 2, and Perc. 3, with specific dynamics and articulation. The woodwind and brass sections have various melodic and harmonic lines, with some instruments playing sustained notes in the later measures.

The Ash Grove

130 Moving forward ♩=120

138a tempo

rit.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets, Saxophones) and brass (Trumpets, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, Tuba) sections are marked with *ff* at the beginning of measure 130. The strings (Bassoon, Saxophones, Trombones, Euphonium, Tuba) are marked with *p* at the start of measure 134. The percussion section includes Timp., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, and Perc. 3. Perc. 1 and Perc. 2 are marked with *ff* and *fp* at the start of measure 130, and *f* and *mf* at the start of measure 134. Perc. 3 is marked with *mf* at the start of measure 138. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. The tempo changes from *rit.* to *a tempo* at measure 138.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B. Cl. 1

B. Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Bls.

Vb.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

p *mf* *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

p *mf* *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

p *mf* *p*

mf

mf

mf

p

mf *p*

pp *mf*

p *mf*

mf

Ride Cym.

Triangle

Finger Cymbals

Sus. Cym.

rit.

a tempo

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts and markings:

- Flute (Fl.):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Oboe (Ob.):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- B♭ Clarinet 1 (B♭ Cl. 1):** Solo (opt. soli) *mf* at measure 153.
- B♭ Clarinet 2 (B♭ Cl. 2):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.):** Solo (opt. soli) *mf* at measure 153.
- Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- B♭ Trumpet 1 (B♭ Tpt. 1):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- B♭ Trumpet 2 (B♭ Tpt. 2):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Horn (Hn.):** Solo (opt. soli) *mf* at measure 153.
- Tuba (Tbn. 1-2):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Tuba (Tuba):** *pp* to *ppp* dynamics.
- Bass Drum (Bls.):** *p* dynamics.
- Vibraphone (Vb.):** *p* dynamics.
- Chimes (Ch.):** *p* dynamics.
- Timpani (Timp.):** *pp* dynamics.
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1):** *p* dynamics.
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2):** *p* dynamics.
- Percussion 3 (Perc. 3):** *p* dynamics, including *Sus. Cym.* and *Wind Chimes*.

Measure numbers 152 through 162 are indicated at the bottom of the page.