



Michael Francis Smith

# Into the Wild

For Band

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## About the Composition

*Into the Wild* was inspired by Jack London's classic novel, the Call of the Wild. It is the musical portrayal of a dog named Buck moving away from civilization and into the wilderness, but it's really about anyone taking a journey into the unknown. This piece is full of wolf calls (in the trombone), anvils depicting the gold rush, and the sounds of whips and sleigh bells from the dog sled. It opens with a dozen strikes from the percussion section imitating the striking of the club, which was Buck's introduction into captivity and "the reign of primitive law". What follows is a majestic theme showing the beauty and strength of the dog. "His development or retrogression" is rapid as depicted in a faster section based on material from the original theme. Then Buck hears the call and joins the pack of wolves, resulting in a "weird and eerie chant, in which it was Buck's delight to join". All the elements are combined in a triumphant conclusion

## About the Composer

Michael Francis Smith is a composer, teacher, band and choir director, and church worship leader. He has taught instrumental music, from elementary bands up to community bands, ranging in ages from 9 to 90. He is a graduate of Ithaca College where he studied composition with Karel Husa. His Masters Degree is in Education Administration from Lesley College; for 23 years he was a K-12 Music Department Chair in two Massachusetts school districts. He is one of the founders and conductors of the Abington Community Band.

After 26 years of public school teaching, he is focusing on composing, songwriting, and leading church worship. His music tells a story, finding inspiration in hymns and spirituals, patriotic music, poetry and classic literature. He often combines instrumental and vocal writing to be used by any combination of band, chorus and orchestra, or to be played or sung successfully by any ensemble alone, providing versatility for ensembles and opportunities for concert finales.

Mr. Smith is the Director of Music at Christ Chapel in Centerville, Massachusetts. He is currently working on a doctorate in worship studies at the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies in Orange Park, Florida. He lives on Cape Cod with his wife, Janice, and their two children, Sean and Colleen.

# Into The Wild

## A Musical Journey Into The Wilderness

Michael Francis Smith

**Mysteriously** ♩ = 50 The Club

Flute 1,2  
Oboe 1,2  
Bassoon  
Clarinet in B $\flat$  1  
Clarinet in B $\flat$  2,3  
Bass Clarinet  
Alto Sax. 1,2  
Tenor Sax.  
Baritone Sax.  
Trumpet in B $\flat$  1  
Trumpet in B $\flat$  2,3  
Horn in F 1,2  
Trombone 1  
Trombone 2,3  
Euphonium B.C.  
Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Percussion 1  
snare drum  
bass drum  
Percussion 2  
wind chimes  
guiro  
sus. cym.  
brake drum  
gong

*pp* *mp* *p* *gliss.* *ff* *fff* *p* *fff* *pp* *ff* *p* *fff*

G, B $\flat$ , D, F

S.D.  
B.D.  
Wind Chimes  
Guiro  
Sus.Cym.  
Whip  
Brake Drum

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The Dog Buck

2

Majestically Piu Mosso

9

Fl. 1,2 *f*

Ob. 1,2 *f*

Bsn. *f*

B♭ Cl. 1 *f*

B♭ Cl. 2,3 *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sx. 1,2 *f*

T. Sx. *f*

B. Sx. *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2,3 *f*

Hn. 1,2 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2,3 *f*

Euph. B.C. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp. *f*

Mlt. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

Gong

Anvil or Brake Drum

Bells and Chimes *f*

15

Fl. 1,2

Ob. 1,2

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2,3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1,2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2,3

Hn. 1,2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2,3

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlt.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

3