

**Martin J. Wimmer**

# March of the Shadows

for Grade 1 ½ Band



CBS163

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## Composer's Notes

*March of the Shadows* is a Grade 1 ½ work for second-year elementary band. As a veteran elementary band director, I am keenly aware of what students are able to accomplish at this level. *March of the Shadows* is a fun, slightly challenging, and completely achievable work. It is a work that would be useful at the beginning of the school year when it feels too summery to begin holiday music. *March of the Shadows* would be perfect for a Halloween or Autumn Concert.

*March of the Shadows* begins with a whistle! It “calls” the show by “announcing” each new section of the piece. (A study of form.) It even reacts to a momentary modulation. The whistle part has all sorts of fun staging potential, including having it played by the director! The initial whistle is followed by a percussion introduction which sets the beat. Seven percussion parts, three of them optional, have been included so that everyone in a large percussion section will be kept engaged and out of trouble! The body of the work includes two alternating themes, one dark and shadowy in minor, the other bright, heroic and slightly syncopated in major. Every part gets the melody at some point, even the low brass and woodwinds! Ranges are all standard for early second-year band players, i.e. clarinets do not go over the break, trumpets do not go higher than middle line B, the snare drum part is sprinkled with basic rudiments such as flams and paradiddles. Even the horn gets a crack at the tune! Every part is fun, interesting and educational.

## About the Composer

Martin J. Wimmer began his public school music teaching career in 1988. Through the years, he has taught chorus, band, and general music at all levels, K-12. He is currently Director of Bands in the Norwood-Norfolk Central School District, just down the road from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, where he directs the Norwood-Norfolk Sr. High Band, Jr. High Band, and Jazz Ensemble. He will begin teaching part-time at Crane in 2016.

Martin J. Wimmer's choral work, *Peace*, won First Prize in the 2010 Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network Competition. It was also a finalist in the 2007 Ithaca College Competition, and has been performed by school, church, and community choruses across the USA and Canada. He holds degrees in music education and musicology from Syracuse University and SUNY Buffalo, respectively. His newest choral work, *Through Music* (SA), was recently premiered by the Buffalo-Niagara Youth Chorus, and subsequently selected for performance by Ohio's District 16 Area All State Chorus.

Martin J. Wimmer is a member of NYSSMA and the St. Lawrence County Music Educators Association. He resides in Canton, NY and is currently accepting new commissions and opportunities to guest conduct.

## Instrumentation

Flute  
Oboe  
Bb Clarinet  
Alto Saxophone  
Tenor Saxophone  
Bb Trumpet  
Horn in F  
Trombone  
Baritone  
Snare Drum  
Bass Drum  
Tambourine (optional)  
Triangle (optional)  
Whistle (optional)  
Wood Block  
Orchestra Bells

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March ♩=100

The musical score is arranged in a standard concert band layout. It features ten staves for woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone), five for brass (Trumpet in Bb, Horn in F, Trombone, Baritone), and five for percussion (Snare Drum/Bass Drum, Tambourine, Triangle, Whistle, Wood block). The percussion section includes dynamic markings such as *mf* and *ff*, and a 'flams' instruction for the snare drum. The woodwinds and brass parts are currently blank. The score is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb).

March ♩=100

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

**11** Dark

div.  
*mp*

Fl.

div.  
*mp*

Ob.

*mp*

Cl.

A. Sax.

Ten. Sax.

*mp*

Tpt.

*mp*

Hn.

*mp*

Tbn.

*mp*

Bar.

*mp*

S. D.  
B. D.

*mp*

Tamb.

*mp*

Tri.

*mp*

Whist.

*ff*

W.B.

*mp*

**11** Dark

Orch. Bells

*mp*

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18