HERALDIC MOMENTS Jeff Calissi





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INSTRUMENTATION

Four Timpani – F, Bb, Eb, F

PROGRAM NOTES

Beginning in the 15th century timpani were employed to capture an audience's attention. Whether for an announcement, event or concert, paired with brass instruments in a fanfare or in an orchestral setting as a solo, the combination of rhythm and pitch at the heart of the instruments have been a useful tool for composers throughout music history. Incorporated in this solo are excerpted portions of the following pieces that are well known for using the timpani as a vehicle for heraldic moments in the music: "Also sprach Zarathustra" by Richard Strauss, Symphony No. 9 (mvmt. II) by Ludwig van Beethoven, "Fanfare for the Common Man" by Aaron Copland, "Bugler's Dream" by Leo Arnaud, "Olympic Fanfare and Theme" by John Williams and "Hallelujah Chorus" from Messiah by George Frideric Handel.

COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

New Jersey native Jeff Calissi (b. 1976) has a broad range of experience as a pedagogue, performing artist, and composer. The world of percussion has taken him to Europe, Canada and throughout the United States performing in a variety of wind, percussion and chamber ensembles, symphony orchestras, opera companies and musical theater productions.

Jeff's compositions, arrangements and recordings are available from C. Alan Publications and Garden State Publications, and his research and writings on percussion can be found in Percussive Notes Journal and Rhythm! Scene magazine. He is an educational artist with Vic Firth sticks and mallets and Marimba One instruments.

Jeff holds memberships in the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the College Music Society (CMS) and the Percussive Arts Society (PAS). As a member of PAS, he has served on the Composition Committee, as chair of the Scholarly Research Committee and as the associate keyboard editor for the Percussive Notes Journal. He has performed and presented at the conferences of CMS, PAS, the Eastern Trombone Workshop, the International Tuba and Euphonium Conference, the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy and at the Center for Mallet Percussion Research.

Jeff received a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Radford University and both a Master of Music and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro where he was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda national music honor society. He is an associate professor of music at Eastern Connecticut State University where he directs the Eastern Percussion Studio, teaches courses in music theory and ear-training & sight-singing, and performs in the faculty percussion duo Confluence.

In his life outside the classroom and off-stage, Jeff enjoys spending time with his wife, pianist Rebecca Calissi and their toddler daughter (instrument/voice tbd), watching the New York Rangers start each season on a winning streak and being a middle-of-the-pack triathlete. He continues his quest for the perfect Italian dinner. You can follow Jeff on YouTube (@jeffcalissi) and Instagram (@prcshnst).



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