
A FLICKER IN TIME

BENJAMIN DEAN TAYLOR

for CONCERT BAND

commissioned by

WILLOWCREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL, DAVID FAIRES, director
head commissioner

CREEKSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL, NICHOLE BIER, director
HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL, NAOMI FELDMAN and KEN HENZE, directors
CENTER GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL CENTRAL, SAM FRITZ, director
AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY, DUSTIN GRADY, director
BARBER MIDDLE SCHOOL, ROBERT GROGAN and MICHAEL CAHAL, directors
MADISON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, STEVEN KLINGLER, director
MILLCREEK JUNIOR HIGH, CHAD KING, director
VISTA HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL, PAUL LEMEN, director
TIMPANOGOS HIGH SCHOOL, JARED MORRIS, director
WEST HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL, VICTOR NEVES, director
CENTENNIAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, STEVE PARK, director
SYRACUSE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, ZACHARY POULTER, director
EPHRAIM MIDDLE SCHOOL, JOSH RASMUSSEN, director
SALEM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, DANIEL STOLWORTHY, director
LEHI JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, HOWARD SUMMERS, director
CENTENNIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL, PETER WERNER, director
DESERT HILLS BAND PROGRAM, HAYLEY WINSLOW, director
STURGIS MIDDLE SCHOOL, JAMES WHITEHEAD, director
FRONTIER MIDDLE SCHOOL, CHANDRA YOUNG , director
consortium members

2014

Duration: c. 4:00

Music typeset by the composer

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Note from Consortium Director

The title “A Flicker In Time” is drawn from a quote in Joseph Conrad’s novel *Heart of Darkness*. The original phrase reads: “...like a flash of lightening in the clouds. We live in the flicker.”

One of the main factors that had led to organizing this particular consortium was our celebration of the tenth year anniversary of Willowcreek Middle School. Our particular region in Utah features large valleys between great mountains. There is a rich heritage of pioneers and exploration. It is also an area that continues to grow and develop. Dr. Taylor and I felt strongly that the music should represent these aspects of exploration, ascension, development, and hope. We wanted to recognize the youthfulness of our performers, their present moment in time, the lessons of the past, and the endless hope for the future.

We decided at the beginning of this project that we would involve the students of Willowcreek Middle School in naming this work. Upon completion of the first draft, the students were able to visit with Dr. Taylor via skype and hear his musical ideas, textures, and structure for this unnamed work. While the music itself was inspired by our original discussions, we wanted the students to first hear without initially knowing our original thoughts and inspirations. This experience was an interesting process to say the least. The majority of the students’ suggestions related to exploration, celebrations, ascension, and epic adventures. In the end, a general story of a journey was adapted.

“A Flicker In Time” represents the path that we are on and our own moment in time. It is a joyful acknowledgement of the past, future, and present. Like the lives of these students, we stand on the shoulders of the past, with an anticipation of the adventures ahead. This is our time. This work pays tribute to our own youthful adventures and journeys along this path as it ascends between the clouds.

David Faires, band director
Willowcreek Middle School, Lehi, UT.

Many thanks to David Faires and consortium members for this commission.

Instrumentation

Flute 1,2

Oboe

Bassoon

Clarinet in B-flat 1,2

Bass Clarinet

Alto Sax 1,2

Tenor Sax

Bari Sax

Trumpet in B-flat 1,2

Horn in F

Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion (6 players minimum)

- Percussion 1: snare drum, china cymbal, metal wind chimes
- Percussion 2: bass drum
- Percussion 3: 2 tom-toms, medium suspended cymbal
- Percussion 4: bongos, crash cymbals, tambourine
- Percussion 5: slapstick, triangle, tam-tam, small suspended cymbal
- Percussion 6: chimes, glockenspiel, xylophone

Duration

4 minutes

About the Composer



Benjamin Dean Taylor is a composer of contemporary art music. His energetic, adventurous music provides a uniquely refreshing sonic experience for performers and audiences alike. Trained as a trumpet player and pianist, he performs with and writes music for a variety of chamber ensembles, jazz combos and big bands, wind bands, orchestras, choirs, and experimental ensembles. He received degrees in music composition from Indiana University, Brigham Young University and Bowling Green State University. Dr. Taylor's prizes and honors include winner in the 2013 Frank Ticheli Composition Competition, a BMI Student Composers Award, two Barlow Endowment Commissions, and an ASCAP Young Jazz Composer Award. His music is frequently performed in the United States and abroad. Dr. Taylor resides in Bloomington, Indiana with his wife and three sons.

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6

Fl. 1,2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1,2

Bs. Cl.

A. Sx. 1,2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpts. 1,2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 (bs. dr.)

Perc. 3 (sus. cym.)

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6 (chimes)

p

mf

mp

stagger breathe as necessary

mallets

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

ritard. - - - (♩ = 72) C ♩ = 116

13 B

Fl. 1,2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1,2

Bs. Cl.

A. Sx. 1,2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpts. 1,2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1 (sn. dr.)

Perc. 2 (bs. dr.)

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

crash cyms.

tom-toms sticks

bongos sticks

sm. sus. cym. mallets

glock.

p *f* *fp* *f* *mp* *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f* *mp* *mp* *p* *f*

(X notehead means on the rim)

secco (dampen with hand or towel)

choke

$p < f$

