

DAVID HEUSER

# THE GROUND BENEATH OUR FEET



*FOR CONCERT BAND*

2017

DURATION APPROXIMATELY 4 MINUTES

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### PROGRAM NOTES:

*The Ground Beneath Our Feet* was commissioned by Susan Leffler, in memory of Mr. William Leffler, and the Scarsdale Middle School for the Scarsdale Middle School Eighth Grade Concert Band, Nicholas Lieto director, Michael McDermott, Principal. Midwife credit for the commission goes graciously to Rob Smith and the Houston rain-gods. The piece is roughly a wedge, growing from a quiet opening, featuring the percussion, to a rousing finish. The piece is also in 5/8, a two-beat meter in which the first beat is longer than the second beat. This characteristic suggested a sense of unevenness or imbalance which gave rise to the title; even the seemingly stable ground beneath our feet is always in motion.

### INSTRUMENTATION:

PICCOLO

2 FLUTES

2 OBOES

BASSOON

2 B-FLAT CLARINETS

BASS CLARINET

2 ALTO SAXOPHONES

TENOR SAXOPHONE

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

3 B-FLAT TRUMPETS

F HORN

2 TROMBONES

EUPHONIUM

TUBA

TIMPANI (IDEALLY 4 DRUMS)

PERCUSSION (BELOW)

### UNPITCHED PERCUSSION (12 PARTS):

Suspended Cymbal, Triangle, Bell Tree & Ratchet (one player), Claves, Guiro, Tambourine, Cabasa,  
2 Egg Shakers (two players), Wood Block, Snare Drum, Bass Drum

### PITCHED PERCUSSION (3 PARTS):

Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, Xylophone

### PERCUSSION PARTS:

If fewer than 15 players are available, the following parts can be combined to reduce the number of parts to 12:

- Bass Drum and Bell Tree (in which case the Ratchet part needs to be given to Guiro)
- Wood block part can be split between Cabasa (cue I to K) and Vibraphone (cue P to end).
- Egg Shaker 2 can be covered by the Snare Drum until cue N, at which point Egg Shaker 1 can cover the 2<sup>nd</sup> Egg Shaker part.

If fewer than 12 players are available, omit the Guiro, Cabasa, and Vibraphone parts in that order.

Score

(Note: score is not in concert pitch)

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for the Scarsdale Middle School Eighth Grade Concert Band,  
Nicholas Lieto director, Michael McDermott, Principal

# THE GROUND BENEATH OUR FEET

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2017

Litlingly ♩ = 70

A

The score is for an 8/8 time signature piece. It features a variety of instruments including woodwinds, brass, percussion, and strings. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax, Tenor Sax, Baritone Sax) and brass (Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba) parts often play sustained notes with dynamic markings like *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, and *ppp*. The percussion section includes Timpani, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle, Bell Tree/Ratchet, Claves, Guiro, Tambourine, Cabasa, Wood Block, Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Egg Shaker (or Maraca) 1 & 2, Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, and Xylophone. The string parts (initial tuning) are marked with *mf* and *mp*. A 'solo' section is indicated for the Flute 1, 2 part. The score is marked with a box 'A' in the upper right.

B

12

Picc.

Fl. 1, 2 *pp*

Ob. 1, 2 *p*

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1, 2 *mp* *p* *pp* *mf*

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1, 2 *mp* *pp*

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

12

B♭ Tpt. 1, 2 *mp* *pp* *st. mute a2*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *mp* *pp* *st. mute*

Hn.

Tbn. 1, 2 *pp*

Euph.

Tuba

12

Timp. *E to E<sub>b</sub>*

12

Sus. Cym. *p* *mf*

Tr.

B. Tr./Rach. *mf* *bell tree*

Clv.

Gro.

Tamb.

Cab.

W. Bl.

12

S. Dr.

B. Dr.

12

Sh. 1 *p*

Sh. 2

12

Glk.

Vib. *mf* *Ped. each note*

Xyl.

C

24

Picc.

Fl. 1, 2

Ob. 1, 2

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1, 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1, 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

24

B♭ Tpt. 1, 2

B♭ Tpt. 3

Hn.

Tbn. 1, 2

Euph.

Tuba

24

Timp.

24

Sus. Cym.

Tr.

B. Tr./Rach.

Clv.

Gro.

Tamb.

Cab.

W. Bl.

24

S. Dr.

B. Dr.

24

Sh. 1

Sh. 2

24

Glk.

Vib.

Xyl.

