

# Six Short Scenes for Band

Michael Mikulka

"Six Short Scenes" was composed from 2017-2018 after I spent a large portion of 2016 filling in for middle school band directors, particularly at Burnet Middle School in Austin, TX

The six scenes range from grade 0.5 to grade 1.5. The composition can be performed in its entirety, or a selection of movements can be mixed and matched.

"Two Contrasts" alternates one section that is loud, blunt, and aggressive with one that is quiet, subtle, and delicate. The rhythmic and melodic content is designed to be simple and straightforward so that students can be focused specifically on the stark dynamic and stylistic differences.

"Dignified Waltz" is an accessible way for students to play in 3/4 time. It also provides a repetitive accompaniment pattern for horns and percussion to get used to playing offbeats.

"Joyful March" presents the typical roles and form of a march, and it contains a synopated rhythmic pattern (m. 97) that the ensemble can work together on.

"Rustic Dance" introduces students to irregular phrase lengths and atypical harmonies, while the other aspects remain simplistic so that students can focus on those two challenging concepts.

"Mournful Song" provides an intuitive setting for extensive aleatoric sections in the woodwinds and percussion. For this movement to work, students must learn how to listen to each other, match each other's style, shape phrases, and play lyrically/with emotion.

"Russian Dance" contains a lot of unison rhythm and provides an opportunity for the ensemble to balance, blend, and create long phrases.

"Six Short Scenes" was premiered in 2019 by the FMC Band/Orchestra.

# Six Short Scenes for Band

Michael Mikulka

## 1. Two Contrasts

Savage, then delicate

♩ = 112

(suddenly quiet)  
2 players only

The score is for a band and includes the following parts:

- Flute
- Oboe (opt.)
- Clarinet in B $\flat$
- Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$  (opt.)
- Bassoon (opt.)
- Alto Saxophone
- Tenor Saxophone (opt.)
- Baritone Saxophone (opt.)
- Horn in F
- Trumpet 1 in B $\flat$
- Trumpet 2 in B $\flat$
- Trombone
- Baritone/Euphonium
- Tuba
- Timpani (32" - G, 29" = B $\flat$ , 26" - Eb, 23" - F)
- Percussion 1 (Bass Drum)
- Percussion 2 (Snare Drum)
- Glockenspiel
- Xylophone
- Marimba
- Vibraphone

The score is in 4/4 time and features a dynamic shift from *f* to *sub. p* (suddenly quiet) at the end of the piece. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 112. The score is divided into measures 2 through 6.

The musical score is arranged vertically for the following instruments and parts:

- Fl.** (Flute) - Rest, then *sub. p* from m. 11.
- Ob.** (Oboe) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Cl.** (Clarinet) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- B. Cl.** (Bass Clarinet) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Bsn.** (Bassoon) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Alto Sax.** - *f* from m. 7.
- Ten. Sax.** - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Bari. Sax.** - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Hn.** (Horn) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Tpt. 1** (Trumpet 1) - *f* from m. 7.
- Tpt. 2** (Trumpet 2) - *f* from m. 7.
- Tbn.** (Trombone) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Euph.** (Euphonium) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Tba.** (Tuba) - Rest, then *f* from m. 9.
- Timp.** (Tympani) - *f* from m. 7.
- Perc. 1** (Percussion 1) - *f* from m. 7.
- Perc. 2** (Percussion 2) - *f* from m. 7.
- Glock.** (Glockenspiel) - Rest, then *p* from m. 11.
- Xyl.** (Xylophone) - Rest, then *p* from m. 11.
- Mar.** (Maracas) - Rest, then *p* from m. 11.
- Vib.** (Vibraphone) - Rest, then *p* from m. 11.

tutti  
(everybody)

The musical score consists of 18 measures across 19 staves. The instruments and their parts are:

- Flute (Fl.):** Rests in measures 13-14, then plays a melodic line from measure 15 to 18.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Clarinet (Cl.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.):** Plays a melodic line from measure 13 to 18.
- Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a rhythmic accompaniment from measure 14 to 18.
- Bass Saxophone (Bari. Sax.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Horn (Hn.):** Plays a melodic line from measure 13 to 18.
- Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1):** Plays a melodic line from measure 13 to 18.
- Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2):** Plays a melodic line from measure 13 to 18.
- Trombone (Tbn.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Tuba (Tba.):** Rests in measure 13, then plays a melodic line from measure 14 to 18.
- Timpani (Timp.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment from measure 13 to 18.
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment from measure 13 to 18.
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment from measure 13 to 18.
- Glockenspiel (Glock.):** Rests in measures 13-14, then plays a melodic line from measure 15 to 18.
- Xylophone (Xyl.):** Rests in measures 13-14, then plays a melodic line from measure 15 to 18.
- Maracas (Mar.):** Rests in measures 13-14, then plays a rhythmic accompaniment from measure 15 to 18.
- Vibraphone (Vib.):** Rests in measures 13-14, then plays a melodic line from measure 15 to 18.

Dynamic markings include *f* (forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). The score includes performance instructions for percussion instruments:

- Timpani:** hit timpani several times during this measure, any rhythm you want
- Percussion 1:** hit bass drum several times during this measure, any rhythm you want
- Percussion 2:** hit snare drum several times during this measure, any rhythm you want
- Glockenspiel:** play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want
- Xylophone:** play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want
- Maracas:** play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want
- Vibraphone:** play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

Measure numbers 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 are indicated at the bottom of the score.

(big breath)

hit timpani several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

hit bass drum several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

hit snare drum several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

play Bb several times during this measure, any rhythm you want

19 (answering trumpets and saxes)

(3 players only)

(2 players only)

Fl. *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Ob.

Cl. (suddenly quiet) *sub. p*

B. Cl.

Bsn. *p*

Alto Sax. *f* *mf* *mp* *p* (2 players only) (1 player only)

Ten. Sax. *p*

Bari. Sax. *p*

Hn.

Tpt. 1 *f* *mf* *mp* *p* (2 players only) (1 player only)

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph. *p*

Tba. *p*

Timp.

Perc. 1 (with trumpets and saxes) *f* (with flutes, answering bass drum) *mf* *mp* *p*

Perc. 2 *mf* *mp* *p*

Glock. Solo *mf*

Xyl.

Mar. *p*

Vib. *p*

tutti  
(everybody)

Fl. *ff*

Ob. (suddenly loud) *sub. ff*

Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Alto Sax. *ff* tutti (everybody)

Ten. Sax. *ff*

Bari. Sax. *ff*

Hn. (suddenly loud) *sub. ff*

Tpt. 1 *sub. ff* (suddenly loud) tutti (everybody)

Tpt. 2 *sub. ff* (suddenly loud)

Tbn. *sub. ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tba. *ff*

Timp. (suddenly loud) *sub. ff*

Perc. 1 *ff* Solo *fff*

Perc. 2 *ff*

Glock. *f*

Xyl. (suddenly loud) *sub. ff*

Mar. *ff*

Vib. *ff*

# 2. Dignified Waltz

Patient and regal

♩ = 112

37

Fl. **3/4**

Ob. **3/4**

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax. *p*

Bari. Sax.

**3/4**

Hn. *p*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph. *p* *mf*

Tba. *p* *mf*

Timp. *p* *mp*

Perc. 1 Bass Drum *p* *mp* Suspended Cymbal

Perc. 2 *p*

Glock.

**3/4**

Xyl.

Mar. *p*

Vib. *p*

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44



Fl. *p*

Ob.

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax. *mf*

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph. *p* *mf*

Tba. *p* *mf*

Timp. *p*

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 2 *mf* *p*

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib.

Fl. *mf*

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax. *mf*

Hn.

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tbn. *mf*

Euph.

Tba.

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib.

61

Fl. *f* *mp*

Ob. *f* *mp*

Cl. *f* *mp*

B. Cl. *f* *mp*

Bsn. *f* *mp*

Alto Sax. *f* *mp*

Ten. Sax. *f* *mp*

Bari. Sax. *f* *mp*

Hn. *f* *mp*

Tpt. 1 *f* *mp*

Tpt. 2 *f* *mp*

Tbn. *f* *mp*

Euph. *f* *mp*

Tba. *f* *mp*

Timp. *mf* *p*

Perc. 1 *f* *p*

Perc. 2 *p* *mf* *p* *f*

Glock. *f* *mp*

Xyl. *f* *mp*

Mar. *f* *mp*

Vib. *f* *mp*

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68

69

3 players

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax. *p*

Bari. Sax.

2 players

1 player

2 players

Hn. *p*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph. *p*

Tba. *p*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 2

(dampn note with finger)

Glock. *mp*

Xyl.

Mar. *p*

Vib. *mp*

# 3. Joyful March

Marchlike

♩ = 88+

81

4/4

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Alto Sax. *f*

Ten. Sax. *f*

Bari. Sax. *f*

Hn. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tbn. *f*

Euph. *f*

Tba. *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 Bass Drum *f*

Perc. 2 Snare Drum *f*

Glock. *f*

Xyl. *f*

Mar. *f*

Vib. *f*

77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84

85

89

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf* smoothly

Cl. *mf* smoothly

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Alto Sax. *mf*

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn. *mf* smoothly

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2

Glock. *mf* smoothly

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib. *mf* smoothly

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

97

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Alto Sax. *f*

Ten. Sax. *mf* *f*

Bari. Sax. *f*

Hn. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tbn. *mf* *f*

Euph. *mf* *f*

Tba. *f*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *mf* *f*

Glock.

Xyl. *mf* *f*

Mar. *mf* *f*

Vib. *f*

93

94

95

96

*f*

97

98

99

100

101

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib.

dampen!

dampen!

dampen!



# 4. Rustic Dance

## Rough and Strong

♩ = 112

113

2/4

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1  
Bass Drum

Perc. 2  
Snare Drum

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib.

107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117

118

122

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib.

*p*

118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125

126

130

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.  
(only instrument holding this note)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2  
*f* *p*

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Flute, Oboe, Clarinet (with a note-holding instruction), Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Horns, Trumpets 1 and 2, Trombones, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Timpani, two sets of Percussion (one marked *f* and the other *p*), Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Maracas, and Vibraphone. The score shows a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 126 through 133 are indicated at the bottom of the page.

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

138

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar.

Vib.

dampen

dampen

dampen

*f*

# 5. Mournful Song

## Delicately and Patiently

play these notes  
in any order and any rhythm  
very delicately and quietly

147

♩ = 68

\*continue to do this  
as the other instruments enter

Fl. *pp*

Ob.

Cl. *pp* play these notes in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly

B. Cl. *P*

Bsn. *P*

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn. **3/4**

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. *P*

Euph. *P*

Tba. *P*

Timp. Triangle: play random rhythms delicately, slowly, and quietly

Bass Drum *pp* roll using your fingertips: delicately and quietly. vary the speed and intensity at random

Perc. 1 *pp* play windchimes delicately and quietly

Perc. 2 *pp* play these notes in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly

Glock. *pp* play these notes with the shaft end of the stick in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly

Xyl. *pp* play these notes in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly

Mar. *P* play these notes in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly with the pedal down the entire time

Vib. *P*

**3/4**

\*continue to do this as the flute/clarinet enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the flute/clarinet enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the flute/clarinet enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the flute/clarinet enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the flute/clarinet enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the flute/clarinet enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

\*continue to do this as the other instruments enter

155 Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

gradually fade out

Fl. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Ob. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Cl. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

B. Cl. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Bsn. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Alto Sax. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Ten. Sax. *p* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Bari. Sax. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

gradually fade out

\*\*gently and delicately rearticulate the note whenever you start to get low on breath

\*\*gently and delicately rearticulate the note whenever you start to get low on breath

*mp*

*p*

Hn. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Tpt. 1 *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Tpt. 2 *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Tbn. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Euph. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Tba. *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z* *z*

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

gradually fade out

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

(keep playing even though most other percussionists fade out)

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

(keep playing even though most other percussionists fade out)

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

gradually fade out

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

gradually fade out

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

gradually fade out

Trumpets and Alto Sax enter

gradually fade out

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax. *mf*

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Hn. *mf*

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mf*

Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1 (use more of your hand or both hands if necessary) *mf*  
swipe chimes and let them ring

Perc. 2 *mf*

Glock. *mf*

Xyl. *mf*

Mar. *mf*

Vib. *mf*

159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166

2 players

24

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Alto Sax. *f*

Ten. Sax. *f*

Bari. Sax. *f*

*p*

2 players

*p*

Hn. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tbn. *f*

Euph. *f*

Tba. *f*

*p*

2 players

*p*

2 players

*p*

Triangle: play random rhythms delicately, slowly, and quietly

Timp. *pp*

Perc. 1 *pp*

Perc. 2 *pp*

play windchimes delicately and quietly

Glock. *f*

*mp*

Solo

play these notes with the shaft end of the stick in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly

Xyl. *f*

*pp*

play these notes in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly

Mar. *f*

*pp*

play these notes in any order and any rhythm very delicately and quietly with the pedal down the entire time

Vib. *f*

*pp*



# 6. Russian Dance

Heavy and smooth

♩ = 108

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Alto Sax. *mp*

Ten. Sax. *mp*

Bari. Sax. *mp*

Hn. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *mp*

Tpt. 2 *mp*

Tbn. *mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tba. *mp*

Timp. *mp*

Perc. 1 *mp*  
Bass Drum, with bass drum beater

Perc. 2 *mp*  
Snare Drum

Glock. *mp*

Xyl. *mp*

Mar.

Vib.

Fl. *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Cl. *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Alto Sax. *mf* *f*

Ten. Sax. *mf* *f*

Bari. Sax. *mf*

Hn. *mf* *f*

Tpt. 1 *mf* *f*

Tpt. 2 *mf* *f*

Tbn. *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Glock.

Xyl.

Mar. *mf*

Vib. *mf*

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Cl. *ff* (only clarinets and trumpet 2 hold this note)

B. Cl. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *ff*

Alto Sax. *ff*

Ten. Sax. *ff*

Bari. Sax. *f* *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Tpt. 1 *ff*

Tpt. 2 *ff* (only trumpet 2 and clarinets hold this note)

Tbn. *f* *ff*

Euph. *f* *ff*

Tba. *f* *ff*

Timp. *f* *mf* *f*

Perc. 1 *f* *mf* *f*

Perc. 2 *f* *mf* *f*

Glock. *f* *f*

Xyl. *f* *f*

Mar. *f*

Vib. *f*