Heart of the City

Gary P. Gilroy

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4 Flute 1

4 Flute 2

4 Oboe 1,2

2 Bassoon

3 Clarinet 1

3 Clarinet 2

3 Clarinet 3

2 Bass Clarinet

2 Alto Saxophone

2 Alto Saxophone 2

2 Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

3 Trumpet 1

3 Trumpet 2

3 Trumpet 3

4 F Horn (divisi)

3 Trombone 1

3 Trombone 2

2 Euphonium B.C

2 Euphonium T.C

5 Tuba

1 Timpani, Chimes, Sizzle Cymbal

1 Bells

1 Xylophone, Vibraphone

2 Percussion 1: Hi Hat, 3 Sus. Cymbals (1 should be 20" Ride), Rain Stick, Triangle, Snare Drum, Brake Drum, Bongos, Wood Blocks, Wind Chimes, Floor Tom, Vibraslap

4 Percussion 2: Large Whip, Crash Cymbals, Wood Block (high), Guiro, China, Splash cymbal, Brake Drum, Sus. Cymbal, Ride Cymbal, Floor Tom, Bass Drum, Gong, Garden Weasel, Bamboo Wind Chimes, Vibraslap, Triangle, Cowbell, Claves, Snare Drum

Extra Part - P3014771

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Program Notes

Alive and vibrant with the spirit and sounds of New York City, Heart of the City is driven by exciting rhythms throughout the first third of the work. The thought of busy sidewalks, street corners and soaring taxicabs is represented by the fast ostinati as the melodic figures are passed from one section to another, even including the timpani. The work then moves to a "cooler" feeling that evokes the blues, introducing an alto saxophone soloist in this layered transition to the sultry middle section. Here the music suggests the feeling of a smoke-filled night club for some laid back jazz as the saxophone solo continues, now joined by a vibraphone soloist as well. The driving intensity is relentless as the work comes to a massive climax highlighted by a combination of a suspended cymbal and gong that, in the composer's words, should be "overwhelmingly loud."

As in other of Gilroy's works for concert band, this score calls for a large percussion section. The hi-hat and bongos give the work that "cool" and driving intensity. The bongos should be pitched very high. The large whip should be made with two large pieces of wood, such as oak or pine, hinged together. A variety of cymbals (splash, suspended, china boy, sizzle) offers a sophisticated array of timbres, all coupled with just the right combination of other instruments. None of the percussion is considered optional, even the "coin scrape," which may be done with a quarter or half-dollar coin.

About the Composer

Gary P. Gilroy is a Professor of Music and Director of Bands at California State University, Fresno. In 1993 he was appointed Associate Director of Bands and Director of the Bulldog Marching Band. After 13 years in this position and having built one of the finest collegiate marching bands on the west coast, Dr. Gilroy became Director of Bands. Prior to this appointment he served for a decade as Director of Bands at Fred C. Beyer High School in Modesto, California, where his band was awarded several national honors as well as the International Sudler Shield Award from the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

Dr. Gilroy is active as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States. Most notably, he has served as guest conductor for the Oregon All-State JHS Honor Band and the California All-State High School Symphonic Band. He has published numerous compositions and arrangements for concert band, percussion ensemble and marching band.

HEART OF THE CITY











































































