Sunchaser

Carol Brittin Chambers

INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score .................................................. 1
Flute ......................................................... 8
Oboe (Opt. Flute 2) ........................................ 2
Clarinet 1 in B♭ ............................................ 4
Clarinet 2 in B♭ ............................................ 4
Bass Clarinet in B♭ ........................................ 2
Bassoon ....................................................... 2
Alto Saxophone in E♭ .................................... 5
Tenor Saxophone in B♭ ................................... 2
Baritone Saxophone in E♭ ............................... 2
Trumpet 1 in B♭ ............................................ 4
Trumpet 2 in B♭ ............................................ 4
Horn in F ..................................................... 4
Trombone .................................................... 6
Euphonium ................................................... 3
Euphonium T.C. in B♭ .................................... 2
Tuba ........................................................... 3
Mallet Percussion .......................................... 2
  Bells, Vibraphone ....................................... 1
  Piano (Opt. Vibraphone) ............................... 1
Timpani ....................................................... 1
Percussion 1 ............................................... 3
  Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Wind Chimes
Percussion 2 ............................................... 3
  Triangle, Suspended Cymbal, Tambourine

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About the Composition

Sunchaser was commissioned by the Hal Peterson Middle School Spike Band in Kerrville, TX, directed by Susie Jaksik. The piece was premiered in May 2016.

The term “sunchaser” or “chase the sun” can have various meanings, depending on the context. For example, in aviation, if a pilot heading west flies fast enough so that the sun does not move on the horizon, he is a sunchaser. The term can also mean chasing after something that’s rather unattainable, or it can refer to someone who is quite idealistic or inspirational.

I chose this title for a couple of reasons. First, I simply love the sun and the energy it provides me and all of nature. I have many vivid memories of taking long road trips in my youth. Often, my family and I would be heading west to the mountains. We always tried to leave early enough in the day so that we wouldn’t be staring too much into the sun, and we wanted to arrive at our destination before dark. I remember watching the sun as we chased it down the road, feeling like we were on a journey together.

On a deeper level, I like to think more in terms of following dreams and trying to reach lofty goals. Even though some of these goals may seem out of reach at times, the journey definitely makes us stronger and is often the best part!

The opening few measures are meant to portray the dawn of a new day, which quickly turns into a spirited adventure full of energy and life. I hope you enjoy Sunchaser!

Note to the Conductor:

Use this piece to introduce or reinforce the following musical concepts:

- Syncopated melodies
- Variety of styles
- Lyrical, expressive playing
- Articulation
- Key changes, meter changes

About the Composer

Carol Brittin Chambers is currently on the music faculty at Texas Lutheran University. She lives in San Antonio, Texas, where she is the owner and composer of Aspenwood Music. She also maintains an active performance schedule, including appearances with the Mid-Texas and San Antonio Symphonies.

Chambers is commissioned each year to compose and arrange works for concert band, marching band, and various other ensembles. She has arranged and orchestrated marching shows for numerous high school bands across the country, as well as The Crossmen Drum Corps.

Before coming to TLU, Chambers taught middle school and high school band for many years in the North East Independent School District, San Antonio, TX. She also taught private lessons in NEISD.

Chambers received a Master of Music in Trumpet Performance from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Music Education from Texas Tech University. She studied under Vincent Cichowicz, John Paynter, Arnold Jacobs, James Sudduth, and Will Streider.
Sunchaser

CAROL BRITTIN CHAMBERS

Full Score

Gently \( \frac{\text{j}}{\text{}} = 76 \)

Flute

Oboe
(Opt. Flute 2)

Clarinet in B♭

Bass Clarinet in B♭

Bassoon

Alto Saxophone in E♭

Tenor Saxophone in B♭

Baritone Saxophone in E♭

Gently \( \frac{\text{j}}{\text{}} = 76 \)

Trumpet in B♭

Horn in F

Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Mallet Percussion
(Bells, Vibraphone)

Piano
(Opt. Vibraphone)

Timpani
(Ab, B♭, Eb)

Wind Chimes

Percussion
(Triangle, Sus. Cymbal, Tambourine)

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