

Commissioned by the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (Canada) in partnership with the University of Ottawa.
Premiered by the Heritage Public School Band, Ottawa (Navan) Ontario, conducted by Jennifer Stewart.

Flight of the Hawks

Concert band (Grade 2)

Alex Eddington (SOCAN)

2015

Duration: ca. 4:00

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in B♭ 1 + 2
Bass Clarinet
Alto Saxophone
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone
Trumpet in B♭ 1 + 2
Horn in F
Trombone
Baritone / Euphonium
Tuba
String Bass / Electric Bass
Mallets: bells, xylophone
Timpani (3 drums, low to high A, D, G)
Percussion 1: wind chimes, vibra slap, drum kit (snare drum, 3 tom-toms, bass drum)
Percussion 2: wind chimes, vibra slap, suspended or ride cymbal, anvil or brake drum

When I was commissioned to write a new piece for the Heritage Public School band in Navan, I looked for a way to celebrate their school as well as their lovely part of Ontario in the National Capital Region. The Heritage school mascot is a hawk, and I happen to be a bird lover.

Red-tailed hawks are the most common raptor in Ontario, so I began to imagine a piece that would capture the majesty of the bird – and the fierce dedication of Heritage students. Flight of the Hawks contains two musical “scenes”. In the first section of the piece, the red-tails are soaring high above the land. In the second section the hawks are in full hunting mode, diving after prey with their claws extended.

The distinctive call of the red-tailed hawk is a sound that most people have heard, sometimes without realising. Film and TV sound designers often use their cry as a stand-in for other birds of prey, like bald eagles, who don’t actually sound as majestic as they look. I brought recordings of red-tail calls to Navan school and asked the students to try to reproduce them on their instruments. The resulting “hawk call” effects for flute, oboe (or alto sax), percussion, and even the full band found their way into the piece. I’d like to thank the students of Heritage Public School, and music teacher Jennifer Stewart, for their invaluable contributions to this fun (and majestic, and ferocious) piece of music.

Alex Eddington

Flight of the Hawks was commissioned by the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (Canada) in partnership with the University of Ottawa.

The Heritage Public School band premiered the piece in May 2015, conducted by Jennifer Stewart.

Alex Eddington is a composer, theatre artist and arts educator based in Toronto, Canada.

Alex's music has been performed across Canada, around the U.S.A., and in various places around the world. He has been commissioned by a diverse list of musicians and groups including choirs, vocal soloists, chamber ensembles, orchestras, schools and community groups.

He was commissioned by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Mississauga Symphony to compose *Dancing About Architecture*, a “sesquie” fanfare for the celebration of Canada’s 150th birthday. His many pieces for young musicians include *Living Soul*, which was premiered by the students and teachers of the Suzuki String School of Guelph – over 100 performers.

Alex's pieces *Saturday Night at Fort Chambly* and *Bubblegum Delicious* were recorded and released worldwide on the Cambria label in 2017. *Picking Wild Berries* appears on the album *Fresh* by Edmonton's Chronos Vocal Ensemble and was featured at the 2018 Podium choral symposium in St. John's, Newfoundland. His first solo album of compositions for voice, featuring soprano Kristin Mueller-Heaslip, is planned for release on the Centrediscs label in November 2019.

You can find out more about Alex Eddington, listen to music and purchase sheet music at www.AlexEddington.com. If you are performing this piece, please let him know – he likes to hear about where his music is travelling.



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Flight of the Hawks

Duration: ca. 4:00

Concert band (Grade 2)

Alex Eddington (SOCAN)

J = 80 **Part I: SOARING**

Imitate a red-tailed hawk: blow through mouthpiece, then lower pitch by covering opening with hand.

(Oboe)

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in B♭ 1+2
Bass Clarinet
Alto Saxophone
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone
Trumpet in B♭ 1+2
Horn in F
Trombone
Baritone / Euphonium
Tuba
String bass
Bells
Timpani
Percussion 1
Percussion 2

DO NOT COPY

2 3 4 5 6

9

Play **Tutti**

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perusal Score DO NOT COPY

7 8 **mp** 10 11 12 13

17

Fl. Ob. Bb Cl. 1+2 B. Cl. A. Sx. T. Sx. B. Sx. Bb Tpt. 1+2 Hn. Tbn. Bar. / Euph. Tuba Bass Bells Timp. Perc. 1 Perc. 2

mf *mf*

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Play Play

p *mf* 17 *mf* 18 *mf* 19 *mf* 20

mf *mf*

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

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Perusat Score DONOTCOPY

14 15 16 *p* *mf* 17 *mf* 18 19 20

*Suspended or ride cymbal
(with medium mallets)*

Soaring higher

accel. **25** $\text{♩} = 90$

Perusal Score - DO NOT COPY

21 22 23 *p* 24 25 26 27 28

33

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

mp

optional: play lower (small) notes

mp

34

35

36

37

33

40

Fl.

Ob.

B. Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B. Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

(arco)

Perusal Score - DO NOT COPY

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

Oboe (alto sax) "hawk call"
(no break!)

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perusal Score - DO NOT COPY

mf

45 46 47 48

*If there is no oboe in the band, a similar effect can be achieved on an alto saxophone.

Part II: HUNTING

49 **53**

Fl. *p*

Ob. *p*

B♭ Cl. 1+2 *p*

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2 *p*

Hn.

Tbn. bring out *mp* very short (tongue stop!) *mf* short!

Bar. / Euph. bring out *mp* very short (tongue stop!) *mf* short!

Tuba

Bass *mf*

Xyl. switch to xylophone *mf*

Tim. *p* Vibra slap *mf*

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2

DONOTCOPY

57

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

54

55

56

57

58 *p*

59

*Suspended or ride cymbal
(with medium mallets)*

Play your highest note
(different than your neighbour)

63

Fl. *sfs*

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2 *sfs*

B. Cl.

A. Sx. *sfs*

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2 *sfs*

Hn.

Tbn. *sfs*

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Xyl.

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

"Fall" down scale to lowest note, then stop

Glissando down to 7th position, and stop

stagger breathe

stagger breathe

p (arco)

p

mp

f

p

2 tom-toms
(high and medium)

mp

let ring

71

66 67 68 69 70 71

Perusal Score DO NOT COPY

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

switch to bells

72 73 74 75 76 77

79

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

79

f

80

81

82

83

bring out

f

f bring out

f

f

Bells (with metal mallets)

Snare drum + bass drum

Anvil or brake drum (with ball-peen hammer)

Perusal Score DO NOT COPY

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

84

85

86

87

88

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1+2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1+2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar. / Euph.

Tuba

Bass

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perusal Score - DO NOT COPY

89 ff 90 91