

Dancing Shoes is a spirited and energetic concert piece in three-part, ternary form (ABA). The first and third sections depict a lively, rhythmic and syncopated solo dancer. The contrasting middle section forms a slower and more lyrical "pas de deux," or graceful "dance for two." The opening and closing sections are meant to show the sheer joy of a solitary dancer exulting in the beauty of exuberant and spirited dancing, while the contrasting middle section is meant to show the graceful elegance of a pair of dancers intertwined in expressive dancing of great aesthetic beauty. Dancing Shoes was originally written for the Adrian Chamber Brass ensemble for their 42nd year together as a performing ensemble.

Dr. Michael Pratt has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Crowell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Mikhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

for my dancing grandchildren

Dancing Shoes

Duration 4:10

Michael Pratt

Energetically spirited ♩ = 144

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system (measures 1-10) features three Trumpets in B♭ (1, 2, 3), Horn in F, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. The second system (measures 11-21) features three Trumpets in B♭ (1, 2, 3), Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. The score is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Energetically spirited' with a quarter note equal to 144 beats per minute. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *ff* (fortissimo). The score includes various musical notations such as accents, slurs, and dynamic markings.