

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958) was an English composer of symphonies, chamber music, opera, choral music, band music, and film scores. He was also a collector of English folk music and song: this activity both influenced his editorial approach to the English Hymnal, beginning in 1904, in which he included many folk song arrangements set as hymn tunes, and also influenced several of his own original compositions.

Flourish for Wind Band was first performed in the Royal Albert Hall, London, on April 1, 1939. This simple yet elegant piece was composed as an overture to the pageant Music and the People.

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 Crosswell 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.

Flourish for Wind Band

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Duration 2:00

Arr. Michael Pratt
for Brass Septet

Maestoso ♩ = 96

This system of the score includes staves for Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2, Trumpet in B♭ 3, Horn in F, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The tempo is marked 'Maestoso' with a quarter note equal to 96 beats per minute. The first ten measures are marked with a forte dynamic (*ff*). The brass instruments play a rhythmic flourish, with the trumpets and horns having melodic lines and the trombone and euphonium providing harmonic support. The tuba part is mostly rests.

This system continues the score from measure 12 to 19. It includes staves for B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, B♭ Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., Euph., and Tuba. The key signature changes to one flat at measure 19. The dynamic marking changes from *ff* to *mf* at measure 19. The music continues with a similar rhythmic pattern, with melodic lines for the trumpets and horns, and harmonic support from the trombone and euphonium. The tuba part remains mostly rests.