

Wilhelm Richard Wagner (22 May 1813 – 13 February 1883) was a German composer, conductor, theatre director and essayist, primarily known for his operas (or "music dramas", as they were later called). Wagner's compositions, particularly those of his later period, are notable for their complex texture, rich harmonies and orchestration, and the elaborate use of leitmotifs: musical themes associated with individual characters, places, ideas or plot elements.

Tannhäuser (1845 and revised in 1861) is an opera in three acts, music and text by Richard Wagner, based on the two German legends of Tannhäuser and the song contest at Wartburg. The story centers on the struggle between sacred and profane love, and redemption through love, a theme running through most of Wagner's mature work.

The Entry of the Guests occurs in Act II as Hermann and Elisabeth receive the guests who assemble for the contest, the noblemen of the neighbourhood, who appear in rich attire.

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 Croswell 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.

Entry of the Guests

Duration 4:55

from *Tannhauser*

Richard Wagner

Arr. Michael Pratt
for Brass Septet

Allegro ♩ = 120

The musical score is arranged for a Brass Septet in 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes parts for Trumpet in B♭ 1, 2, and 3; Horn in F; Trombone; Euphonium; and Tuba. The second system includes parts for B♭ Trumpet 1, 2, and 3; Horn; Trombone; Euphonium; and Tuba. The score begins with a dynamic of *f* (forte) for the trumpets. The horns, trombone, and euphonium enter in the fourth measure with a dynamic of *mp* (mezzo-piano). The tuba enters in the eighth measure with a dynamic of *mp*. The score features various musical notations including accents, slurs, and triplets. The key signature has two flats (B♭ and E♭), and the time signature is 4/4.