

Spark

for wind ensemble

William Pitts

WILLIAM PITT'S MUSIC

Spark

for Wind Ensemble

William Pitts

Commissioned by the Duncanville Independent School District; Duncanville, Texas

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Michael Chrietzberg, Principal; Duncanville High School

Jeffrey King, Director of Bands; Duncanville High School

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in Honor of the Careers, Dedication, and Commitment of Tom and Verda Shine to the Duncanville ISD Bands
and commemorating the naming of the Tom and Verda Shine Performance Hall, Duncanville High School

Instrumentation

Piccolo	3 B \flat Trumpets	Timpani
2 Flutes	2 Horns in F	Marimba
2 Oboes	3 Trombones	Bells
Bassoon	Euphonium (B.C)	Percussion 1 Triangle Gong Crash Cymbal
2 Clarinets in B \flat	Tuba	Percussion 2 Suspended Cymbal
B \flat Bass Clarinet	Piano	Percussion 3 Chimes Crash Cymbal Bass Drum
2 E \flat Alto Saxophones		
B \flat Tenor Saxophone		
E \flat Baritone Saxophone		

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Program Notes

The name "Tom Shine" and "Duncanville High School" were familiar to me long before I began working in Duncanville. Tom and his wife, Verda, began teaching in Duncanville in 1980, and both remained there through the 2009-2010 school year. Their thirty years of dedication produced one of the most successful band programs in the country.

In describing the work of Tom and Verda, Jeffrey King (Director of Bands and long-time Duncanville ISD employee) writes:

"When I first met Tom and Verda Shine in the spring of 1988, I was already familiar with their names and Duncanville. Twenty-two years later, I had no idea the effect that the Shines and Duncanville would have on me.

"Working with Tom Shine for over 21 years, I have developed a tremendous respect for his unselfishness and total commitment to the Duncanville Instrumental Program and the entire Duncanville community. His musical accomplishments are too numerous to mention in this passage, however, Tom would be the first to say, it is not about the trophies or the final placement, but it is more about the journey and the process of getting there. It was always more important for each member in the band to realize their commitment to themselves and the entire group than to receive a certain trophy. Tom had a gift of inspiring and motivating students throughout his forty-year teaching career. There are countless number of students and now adults that have had their lives changed in so many ways. They can still hear Dr. Shine saying, 'one more time!'

"It was during my first teaching position in Duncanville that I realized what a master teacher Verda Shine was. She expected the best from her students and herself. Because of these high expectations, Verda was a lifetime learner, attending clinics, master classes and concerts through her last year of teaching. She was always trying to find a better way to teach our kids. If you ever stepped into a class that Verda was teaching, you would see a well-disciplined classroom; kids were having fun and learning how to better play their instruments. You would also find a genuine, caring and loving teacher. In fact, in her last years to teach, she was affectionately named by the other staff members as 'Mama Kitty' because of her nurturing and caring attitude.

"When I asked William Pitts, our newest band staff member and a very talented young composer to write a piece for Tom and Verda, I was thrilled that he agreed. Commissioning this composition and naming our new performance hall after Tom and Verda is so logical and fitting because these two people have given so much of themselves and their lives to the students, parents, faculty and community of Duncanville."

The name *Spark* is intended to reference both the visual imagery of fire and light, while also referencing the idea of "sparking" a desire and passion for music, just as Tom and Verda Shine did for so many students throughout their careers. Though I was never able to work directly with Tom and Verda, I am honored to be able to celebrate their legacy.

About the Composer

William Pitts (b. 1986) is a composer, conductor, and arranger from Dallas, Texas. Growing up in Carrollton, Georgia, Will began his musical studies in piano and choir at age seven, saxophone in grade five, and began his conducting studies in grade seven. Pitts graduated *summa cum laude* from Emory University, where he studied saxophone, conducting, and composition. Pitts also worked as a librarian in the music department, and as an ensemble coach and administrative assistant in the department of instrumental music. He was the first student to complete an Honors Project in both Conducting and Composition. Will also earned teaching certification from North Georgia College and State University. Pitts' choral and instrumental conducting engagements have taken him from coast to coast. He has served as a Conductor of the Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps of Rockford, Illinois, for three years (2005, 2007-08). As the conductor of the 2005 Phantom Regiment, he received the highest conducting performance score and the second place leadership score among all Division I drum majors as a part of the Jim Jones Award evaluations. In 2008, the Regiment took first place honors as World Champions at the Drum Corps International Finals. Will has also served on Regiment's Management Staff.

Pitts is in high demand as an adjudicator and instructor for high school band programs throughout the country, and his students hold an impressive record of success in auditions and competitions. His compositions and arrangements have been commissioned and performed across the United States as well as Australia. He has written works for and been commissioned by the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony, the Atlanta Trumpet Ensemble, The Vega String Quartet, the Atlanta Saxophone Quartet, the Northwinds Symphonic Band, horn virtuoso J.D. Shaw, and numerous high school and collegiate wind and chamber ensembles. He has also served as a production consultant and talent for Tom Blair, Inc., Drum Corps International, and MTV. Pitts' recent Honors and Awards include the 2008 Katherine Blumenthal Award for Composition, the 2009 Emory University Music Department Nominee for the Sudler Prize in the Arts, and the 2010 Award Recipient of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Band Directors Association Grant for Young and Emerging Wind Band Composers.

Pitts is currently Assistant Director of Bands at Duncanville High School in Duncanville, TX. He has served in the interim position of Director of Choral Activities at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Carrollton, Georgia. He has studied conducting with Undra Finley of Chattanooga, Tennessee; Richard Prior and Scott Stewart of Emory University; John Madden of Michigan State University; Galen Karriker of the University of Akron; Clay Wascholz of Madison, Wisconsin; and Andrea Brown of the Georgia Institute of Technology. He has studied composition with John Anthony Lennon and Richard Prior of Emory University, Saxophone with John Jeffres and Jan Berry Baker of Emory University, and piano with Jan Adams and George Mann of the University of West Georgia.

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If you would like a shorter bio for a program, please e-mail Will at will@williampittsmusic.com

Spark

William Pitts
(ASCAP)

Score $\text{♩} = 140$ ($\text{♩} = 70$) Commissioned by the Duncanville ISD in honor of Tom and Verda Shine

The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Piccolo
- Flute 1
- Flute 2
- Oboe 1
- Oboe 2
- Bassoon
- Clarinet in B♭ 1
- Clarinet in B♭ 2
- Bass Clarinet
- Alto Sax 1
- Alto Sax 2
- Tenor Sax
- Bari Sax
- Trumpet in B♭ 1
- Trumpet in B♭ 2
- Trumpet in B♭ 3
- Horn in F 1
- Horn in F 2
- Trombone 1
- Trombone 2
- Trombone 3
- Euphonium
- Tuba
- Piano
- Timpani
- Marimba
- Bells
- Percussion 1 (Triangle, Gong, Crash Cymbal)
- Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal)
- Percussion 3 (Chimes, Crash Cymbal, Bass Drum)

The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B♭). It features a tempo of 140 beats per minute (♩ = 140) and a half-note equivalent of 70 (♩ = 70). The music is marked with *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte) dynamics. A large 'Sample Score' watermark is visible across the page.

Spark - Score

4 **5**

This musical score is for the piece "Spark" and covers measures 4 through 8. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Picc.** (Piccolo)
- Fl. 1** and **Fl. 2** (Flutes)
- Oboe 1** and **Oboe 2**
- Bsn.** (Bassoon)
- B♭ Clar. 1** and **B♭ Clar. 2**
- Bass Clar.**
- A Sax 1** and **A Sax 2** (Alto Saxophones)
- T Sax** (Tenor Saxophone)
- Bari Sax** (Baritone Saxophone)
- B♭ Tpt. 1**, **B♭ Tpt. 2**, and **B♭ Tpt. 3** (Trumpets)
- Horn 1** and **Horn 2** (Horns)
- Tbn. 1**, **Tbn. 2**, and **Tbn. 3** (Tubas)
- Euph.** (Euphonium)
- Tuba**
- Piano** (with *8va* markings)
- Timp.** (Timpani)
- Marimba**
- Bells**
- Perc. 1**, **Perc. 2**, and **Perc. 3** (Percussion, including *chimes*)

The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs, particularly in the woodwind and string sections. Dynamics such as *f* (forte) are indicated throughout. The score is marked with measure numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 at the bottom of the page.

Spark - Score

11

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The top section includes woodwinds: Piccolo, Flute 1 and 2, Oboe 1 and 2, Bassoon, Clarinet in Bb 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, and Saxophones (Alto 1 and 2, Tenor, Baritone). The middle section features brass instruments: Trumpets 1, 2, and 3; Horns 1 and 2; Trombones 1, 2, and 3; Euphonium; and Tuba. The bottom section contains the Piano, Timpani, Marimba, Bells, and three Percussion parts. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first system (measures 9-13) features a complex woodwind melody with many triplets. The brass instruments enter in measure 11 with a strong, sustained chord. The piano accompaniment provides a rhythmic and harmonic foundation with triplets and sustained chords. A large 'SAMPLE SCORE' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Spark - Score

6

16

This musical score is for the piece "Spark" and covers measures 14 through 18. The score is arranged for a large ensemble, including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into five systems, each corresponding to a measure number (14, 15, 16, 17, 18) indicated at the top and bottom of the page. The instruments listed on the left are: Picc., Fl. 1, Fl. 2, Oboe 1, Oboe 2, Bsn., B♭ Clar. 1, B♭ Clar. 2, Bass Clar., A Sax 1, A Sax 2, T Sax, Bari Sax, B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, B♭ Tpt. 3, Horn 1, Horn 2, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3, Euph., Tuba, Piano, Timp., Marimba, Bells, Perc. 1, Perc. 2, and Perc. 3. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs, particularly in the woodwind and string sections. Dynamic markings such as *f* (forte), *ff* (fortissimo), and *mp* (mezzo-piano) are used throughout. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "SAMPLE SCORE" is overlaid diagonally across the entire page.

Spark - Score

20

23

7

19 21 22 24

Picc

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Oboe 1

Oboe 2

Bsn.

B♭ Clar. 1

B♭ Clar. 2

Bass Clar.

A Sax 1

A Sax 2

T Sax

Bari Sax

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

B♭ Tpt. 3

Horn 1

Horn 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Euph.

Tuba

Piano

Timp.

Marimba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

gong

crash cymbal

19 20 21 22 23 24

Spark - Score

8

27

The score is a full orchestral score for the piece "Spark". It is divided into measures 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30. The score includes parts for a wide variety of instruments, including woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion. The dynamics are marked throughout, ranging from *ff* (fortissimo) to *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score is presented in a standard musical notation format with a large watermark "SAMPLE SCORE" overlaid diagonally across the page.

33

This page of the musical score for 'Spark' covers measures 31 through 41. The instrumentation includes Piccolo, Flute 1 and 2, Oboe 1 and 2, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinet 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone 1 and 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, B♭ Trumpet 1, 2, and 3, Horn 1 and 2, Trombone 1, 2, and 3, Euphonium, Tuba, Piano, Timpani, Marimba, Bells, and three types of Percussion. The score features dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mp*, and *mf*. A large 'Sample Score' watermark is visible across the page. The page number '9' is located in the top right corner, and the measure number '33' is highlighted in a box at the top center.

Spark - Score

10 **42**

The score is for a full orchestral piece titled "Spark". It covers measures 42 through 49. The instrumentation includes a wide variety of woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The woodwind section features Piccolo, Flutes 1 and 2, Oboes 1 and 2, Bassoon, Clarinets in Bb (1, 2, Bass), Saxophones in A (1, 2), Tenor, and Baritone. The brass section consists of Trumpets in Bb (1, 2, 3), Horns (1, 2), Trombones (1, 2, 3), Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Piano, Timpani, Marimba, Bells, and three types of Percussion (1, 2, 3). The score is marked with dynamics such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). A large "SAMPLE SCORE" watermark is visible across the page.

Spark - Score

50

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument. The score is in 3/4 time and features a variety of musical textures and dynamics. Key elements include:

- Piccolo:** Plays a melodic line with triplet patterns, starting at measure 51.
- Flutes (Fl. 1 & 2):** Fl. 1 has a melodic line with triplets, while Fl. 2 provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Oboes (Oboe 1 & 2):** Oboe 1 has a melodic line with triplets, and Oboe 2 provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Clarinets (B♭ Clar. 1 & 2):** Both are mostly silent, with some activity in measure 54.
- Saxophones (A Sax 1 & 2, T Sax, Bari Sax):** All saxophones have melodic lines starting in measure 54, with dynamics ranging from *mf* to *mf*.
- Trumpets (B♭ Tpt. 1, 2, 3):** Tpt. 3 has a melodic line starting in measure 54.
- Horns (Horn 1 & 2):** Horn 2 has a melodic line starting in measure 54.
- Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2, 3):** Tbn. 1 and 2 have melodic lines starting in measure 54, with dynamics ranging from *mp* to *p*.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** Has a melodic line starting in measure 54.
- Tuba:** Has a melodic line starting in measure 54.
- Piano:** Provides a rhythmic accompaniment with *mf* dynamics.
- Marimba:** Plays a melodic line with triplets, starting at measure 51, with dynamics ranging from *f* to *mf*.
- Percussion (Perc. 1, 2, 3):** All are mostly silent.

The score includes various dynamic markings such as *mf*, *p*, *mp*, and *f*, as well as performance instructions like *cresc.* and *mf*. The page number 50 is indicated in the top left corner, and the page number 11 is in the top right corner.

Spark - Score

12

57

This musical score is for the piece "Spark" and covers measures 55 to 60. The score is arranged for a large orchestra and includes the following instruments and parts:

- Picc.** (Piccolo)
- Fl. 1** and **Fl. 2** (Flutes)
- Oboe 1** and **Oboe 2** (Oboes)
- Bsn.** (Bassoon)
- B♭ Clar. 1** and **B♭ Clar. 2** (Clarinets)
- Bass Clar.** (Bass Clarinet)
- A Sax 1** and **A Sax 2** (Alto Saxophones)
- T Sax** (Tenor Saxophone)
- Bari Sax** (Baritone Saxophone)
- B♭ Tpt. 1**, **B♭ Tpt. 2**, and **B♭ Tpt. 3** (Trumpets)
- Horn 1** and **Horn 2** (Horns)
- Tbn. 1**, **Tbn. 2**, and **Tbn. 3** (Trombones)
- Euph.** (Euphonium)
- Tuba**
- Piano** (with grand staff)
- Timp.** (Timpani)
- Marimba**
- Bells**
- Perc. 1**, **Perc. 2**, and **Perc. 3** (Percussion, including gong and crash cymbal)

The score features various musical notations such as triplets, dynamics (e.g., *f*, *fp*, *ff*, *mf*, *cresc.*), and articulation marks. A large "SAMPLE" watermark is visible across the page.

55

56

57

58

59

60

Spark - Score

61

62

63

64 molto rit.

65

The score is for a piece titled "Spark" and is page 13 of the score. It features a large ensemble of instruments. The woodwinds include Piccolo, Flute 1 and 2, Oboe 1 and 2, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinet 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone 1 and 2, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section consists of B♭ Trumpet 1, 2, and 3, Horn 1 and 2, Trombone 1, 2, and 3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The keyboard section includes Piano and Marimba. The percussion section includes Bells and three types of Percussion (Perc. 1, 2, and 3). The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of one flat (B♭). The tempo is marked "molto rit." starting at measure 64. The dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *f* (forte). The score includes various musical notations such as rests, notes, slurs, and articulation marks. A large "Sample Score" watermark is visible across the page.

Spark - Score

14 **66** Slowly, Out of time

This musical score is for the piece "Spark" and covers measures 66 through 73. The tempo and performance style are marked as "Slowly, Out of time". The score is arranged for a large ensemble of instruments. Measures 66-73 feature a melodic line for woodwinds (Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboes 1 & 2, B♭ Clarinets 1 & 2, Bass Clarinet) and brass (B♭ Trumpets 1-3, Horns 1 & 2, Tuba, Euphonium) playing sustained notes with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The percussion section includes Timpani, Marimba, Bells, and three types of Percussion (1, 2, and 3). Percussion 1 plays a triangle with a forte (*f*) dynamic, while Percussion 2 and 3 play sustained notes. The Piano part is mostly silent, with some activity in measures 72 and 73. The score is marked with a large "Sample Score" watermark.

74 Tempo I

The score is for a 4/4 piece in B-flat major. It features a complex woodwind and brass section. The woodwinds (Piccolo, Flutes, Oboes, Clarinets, Saxophones) play a melodic line with triplets and slurs, marked *mf*. The brass section (Trumpets, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, Tuba) provides harmonic support with sustained notes and some rhythmic patterns, marked *mf* or *f*. The Piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment with triplets and slurs, marked *mf*. The Timpani part has a steady rhythmic pattern, marked *mf* and *cresc.*. The Marimba, Bells, and Percussion parts are mostly silent or have simple rhythmic patterns. The score is divided into measures 74, 75, 76, and 77. A large 'SAMPLE SCORE' watermark is visible across the page.

