ANDREW DAVID PERKINS (ASCAP)

GRADIENTS

For Concert Band

FULL SCORE / 2 1 1 3 (+Bass) Alto, Tenor, Bari / 2 1 2 1 1 / Timp Perc (6)

DURATION: Approximately 3:10

GRADE: 2.5
PROGRAM NOTE

In physics, gradients can describe an increase or decrease in the magnitude of a property (e.g., temperature, pressure, or concentration) observed in passing from one point or moment to another. In mathematics, the gradient is a synonym for slope. It points in the direction of the greatest rate of increase of a function, and its magnitude is the slope of the graph in that direction.

GRADIENTS for Concert Band is a synthesis of these ideas, designed for developing musicians. The gradient concept is expressed through dynamics, cluster chords (including a simple 4 mallet marimba part) and extensive use of the melodic minor scale.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

GRADIENTS pushes the upper limits of grade 2.5, in terms of tempo, range and dynamic range. Maximum effect can be reached by encouraging extreme contrast in dynamics and homogenous harmonic blend in the cluster chords. The work makes use of the Concert G melodic minor scale, both in the main melody and as a harmonic texture. In these passages, balance and blend are critical to create the desired effect in color.

There are numerous opportunities to make the rehearsal and performance of GRADIENTS a cross-curricular learning experience. Strong connections can be made to physical science, mathematics, geometry, visual art and even physical education. Directors of educational ensembles are highly encouraged to reach out to their colleagues in these departments and work together to reinforce learning in multiple disciplines.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

A GRAMMY nominated music educator and accomplished multi-instrumentalist, conductor, and composer, Andrew David Perkins (b.1978) holds a specialist certificate in Orchestration from the Berklee College of Music, a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Michigan State University. An active arranger, composer and conductor, Mr. Perkins is a regular guest clinician and educator nationally and abroad.

Born in Royal Oak, Michigan into a musical family, Perkins orchestral training began in Rochester schools, accelerated at the Interlochen Arts Camp, and led to undergraduate studies focusing on music education. Mr. Perkins spent several seasons as a marching member and conductor of the Phantom Regiment Drum & Bugle Corps from Rockford, Illinois. He especially enjoys writing music for younger musicians, on which he has focused for the past few years, including commissions from Davison HS, Bloomfield Hills HS, the Flint Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Conservatoire de Limonest, and a variety of consortia.

Perkins has served as an adjunct professor of Film Scoring at Madonna University in Livonia, Michigan, and is currently the Director of Instrumental Music and Music Technology at Fenton High School in Fenton, Michigan. He additionally serves as the Music Director and Conductor of the Fenton Community Orchestra. Mr. Perkins is a member of the American Society of Composers Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) and his music is exclusively published through APOLLO STUDIOS (ASCAP).

Andrew David Perkins currently resides in Michigan with the love of his life whom he married in 2010, and their daughters. His interests include theology, photography, cinema, vintage instruments, gear, gastronomy, and craft-brewing.
INSTRUMENTATION

FULL SCORE

3 Flute 1
3 Flute 2
2 Oboe
2 Bassoon
4 Clarinet 1
8 Clarinet 2/3
2 Bass Clarinet
3 Alto Sax 1
3 Alto Sax 2
2 Tenor Sax
2 Baritone Sax
3 Trumpet 1
3 Trumpet 2
4 Horn
3 Trombone 1
3 Trombone 2
2 Euphonium
2 Tuba
1 Timpani/Chimes
1 Orchestral Bells
1 Vibraphone
1 Marimba
1 Triangle
1 Suspended Cymbals
1 Bass Drum
Please visit www.andrewdavidperkins.com for Additional works for Wind Band:

GRADIENTS
(2017) Grade 2.5

ASYLUM
(2017) Grade 4

CONSPIRACY THEORIES
(2016) Grade 3+

PRAYERS IN VILLEFRANCHE
(2016) Grade 3

SOUTHEAST BY NORTHWEST
(2016) Grade 5

TRIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC
(2015) Grade 5

ALCATRAZ
(2014) Grade 4