

About the Work

“Make a Joyful Noise” is a celebrative overture for chamber orchestra. The work was commissioned by the Lafayette Symphony, Anne Harrigan, music director with the help of a grant from the Indiana Arts Commission, and is dedicated to the loving memory of Greg Zawisza. The piece was premiered in April of 2001.

This four-minute work opens with a brass fanfare that combined with playful multimeters creates a modern work for chamber orchestra that is perfect for opening any concert. The middle section features a haunting melody in the solo horn that grows over time to the return of the opening melody and the recapitulation of the work. The coda section ends the work with a flare that will put a smile on your audience’s face. The orchestration is for winds in pairs except for three horns. If you only have two horns there is an alternate third trumpet or trombone part that can substitute for this extra horn. It is assumed the normal chamber orchestra personnel would include three horns counting the assistant. This work should fit a void in the normal chamber orchestra repertoire with an up beat, exciting overture.