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THE BLUE GIANTS

Théo Schmitt

Commissioned by the Zürcher Blasmusikverband for their „Young Edition“ series 2022

Programmnotizen

Die Idee für dieses Werk kam mir während einer Reise nach Kanada, wo ich zum ersten Mal Wale sah. Seitdem bin ich fasziniert von diesen majestätischen Biestern. *The Blue Giants* ist eine Hymne an ihre Schönheit, aber auch eine Reflexion über ihren Status als bedrohte Tierart. Das Stück ist in vier Teile gegliedert: Der erste Teil, *Tireless Travelers*, veranschaulicht musikalisch ihre Reisen um den Globus. Eine lange und ausdrucksstarke Melodie schwillt im Ensemble an wie die Wellen während ihrer Wanderungen. In *Playful Titans* beschreibt die Musik, lebendig und fröhlich, wie diese Riesen trotz ihrer enormen Größe und Stärke gerne mit Booten oder anderen Arten spielen. *Hunted by Humans* hingegen ist bedrohlich und beängstigend. Es schildert eine unerbittliche Jagd zwischen einem Walfänger und einer kleinen Gruppe von Walen, bis einer getötet wird. *Bringer of Hope* beginnt mit einem Trauergesang, um die Fähigkeit dieser Säugetiere darzustellen, den Verlust ihrer Artgenossen zu spüren und auszudrücken. Die Musik steigert sich dann langsam, um das Hauptthema voll und hell zu erreichen. Sie zeigt den Kreislauf des Lebens und die Hoffnung, dass diese schönen Tiere die Herausforderungen unserer Zeit überleben werden.

E

Program Note

I got the Idea for this piece during a trip in Canada where I saw whales for the first time. I've been fascinated by these majestic beasts since then. *The Blue Giants* is a hymn to their beauty, but also a reflection on their status as endangered species. The piece is structured in four parts: the first one, *Tireless Travelers*, illustrates musically their journeys around the globe. A long and expressive melody swells in the ensemble like the waves during their migrations. In *Playful Titans*, the music, vivid and cheerful, describes how these giants like to play with boats or other species despite their enormous size and strength. *Hunted by Humans* on the contrary is threatening and frightening. It depicts a relentless chase between a whaler and a small group of whales until one is killed. *Bringer of Hope* starts with a mourning song to represent the capability of these mammals to feel and express the loss of their congeners. The music then rises slowly to reach the main theme full and bright. It shows the cycle of life and the hope that these beautiful animals will survive the challenges of our time.

Instrumentation

THE BLUE GIANTS

Théo Schmitt

Dauer / Durée / Duration: 8''
Schwierigkeitsgrad / Degré de difficulté / Grade: 3

Blasorchester / Orchestre d'Harmonie / Concert Band

Flute 1

Flute 2

Oboe (opt.)

Bassoon (opt.)

Clarinet Bb 1

Clarinet Bb 2

Bassclarinet Bb (opt.)

Alto Saxophone Eb 1

Alto Saxophone Eb 2 (opt.)

Tenor Saxophone Bb (opt.)

Baritone Saxophone Eb (opt.)

Trumpet Bb 1

Trumpet Bb 2

Horn Eb/F 1

Horn Eb/F 2 (opt.)

Trombone Bb/C 1

Trombone Bb/C 2

Euphonium Bb/C

Tuba Bb/Eb/C

Timpani

Drum Set

Percussion

Glockenspiel

Tireless Travelers

Andante ♩ = 72

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The image displays a page from a musical score for Wagner's opera "Der Schatz der Nibelungen". The score covers measures 7 through 10. It features multiple staves for various instruments, including woodwinds (Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets in Bb and C, Bass Clarinet), saxophones (Alto Saxophone 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone), brass (Trumpets in Bb 1 & 2, Horns in F 1 & 2, Trombones 1 & 2, Euphonium, Tuba), percussion (Timpani, Drums, Suspended Cymbal, Glockenspiel), and strings (Violins 1 & 2, Violas, Cellos, Double Basses). The notation includes notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). A large blue watermark with the text "musikverlag frank" is overlaid diagonally across the center of the page. The bottom of the page shows measure numbers 7, 8, 9, and 10 in small boxes.

This musical score is for 'The Sound of Music' by Johann Sebastian Bach, arranged for a large ensemble. The score is written for the following instruments:

- Fl. 1 (Flute 1)
- Fl. 2 (Flute 2)
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Bsn. (Bassoon)
- Cl. in Bb 1 (Clarinet in Bb 1)
- Cl. in Bb 2 (Clarinet in Bb 2)
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- A. Sax. 1 (Alto Saxophone 1)
- A. Sax. 2 (Alto Saxophone 2)
- T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone)
- Bar. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone)
- Tpt. in Bb 1 (Trumpet in Bb 1)
- Tpt. in Bb 2 (Trumpet in Bb 2)
- Hn. 1 in F (Horn 1 in F)
- Hn. 2 in F (Horn 2 in F)
- Tbn. 1 (Trombone 1)
- Tbn. 2 (Trombone 2)
- Euph. (Euphonium)
- Tba. (Tuba)
- Timp. (Timpani)
- Dr. (Drum)
- Sus. Cym. (Suspended Cymbal)
- Glock. (Glockenspiel)

The score includes various dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mf^{express}*, and *p* (piano). The score is published by musikverlag frank.

This image shows a page of a musical score, likely for a symphony, featuring various instruments. The score is written on multiple staves, each labeled with an instrument name. The instruments include Flutes (Fl. 1, Fl. 2), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets in Bb (Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, A. Sax. 2, T. Sax., Bar. Sax.), Trumpets in Bb (Tpt in Bb 1, Tpt in Bb 2), Horns in F (Hn. 1 in F, Hn. 2 in F), Trombones (Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Drums (Dr.), Cymbals (Sus. Cym.), and Glockenspiel (Glock.).

The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano). The publisher's name, "musikverlag frank", is visible on several staves. The page number "16" is at the bottom left, and the page number "20" is at the bottom right.

B

Fl.1 *f* *express*

Fl.2 *f* *express*

Ob. *f* *express*

Bsn. *f*

mf
musikverlag frank

Cl. in B♭ 1 *f* *express*

Cl. in B♭ 2 *f* *express*

B. Cl. *f*

mf
musikverlag frank

A. Sax. 1 *f* *express*

A. Sax. 2 *f* *express*

T. Sax. *f*

Bar. Sax. *f*

mf
musikverlag frank

Tpt. in B♭ 1 *f* *express*

Tpt. in B♭ 2 *f* *express*

Hn. 1 in F *f* *express*

Hn. 2 in F *f* *express*

mf
musikverlag frank

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2 *f*

Euph. *f*

Tba. *f*

mf
musikverlag frank

Timp. *f*

Dr. *f*

Sus. Cym. *mf* *p* *f*

mf
musikverlag frank

Glock. *f*

27 22 23 24 25 26

35

Playful Titans

Playful Titans

Allegretto ♩ = 112

C **D** *rall.....*

Fl.1 *pp*

Fl.2 *pp*

Ob.

Bsn.

mf
musikverlag frank

Cl. in B♭ 1 *pp*

Cl. in B♭ 2 *pp*

B. Cl. *p*

mf
musikverlag frank

A. Sax.1

A. Sax.2

T. Sax.

mf
musikverlag frank

Bar. Sax. *p*

Tpt in B♭ 1 *p leggiero*

Tpt in B♭ 2 *p leggiero*

Hn.1 in F *p leggiero*

Hn.2 in F *p leggiero*

mf
musikverlag frank

Tbn.1

Tbn.2

mf
musikverlag frank

Euph.

Tba. *p*

mf
musikverlag frank

Timp. *ppp*

Dr. *pp*

Hi-hat

mf
musikverlag frank

Whimes *pp*

To Sus. Cym.

Glock.

36 37 38 39 40 41

42

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony or concert band. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments. The instruments listed on the left side of the page are: Fl. 1, Fl. 2, Ob., Bsn., Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2, B. Cl., A. Sax. 1, A. Sax. 2, T. Sax., Bar. Sax., Tpt. in Bb 1, Tpt. in Bb 2, Hn. 1 in F, Hn. 2 in F, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Euph., Tba., Timp., Dr., Sus. Cym., and Glock. The score is written in a standard musical notation with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a time signature of 4/4. The page number 47 is visible in the bottom left corner. A large, stylized 'mf' watermark is overlaid on the center of the page, and the text 'musikverlag frank' is visible in the bottom right corner.

52



[illegible]



This image shows a page of a musical score, likely for a symphony, featuring various instruments. The score is written for a large ensemble, including Flutes (Fl. 1, 2), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets in Bb (Cl. in Bb 1, 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, 2), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.), Trumpets in Bb (Tpt in Bb 1, 2), Horns in F (Hn. 1 in F, 2 in F), Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Drums (Dr.), and Glockenspiel (Glock.).

The score includes dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte), along with crescendo and decrescendo hairpins. The page is numbered 72, 73, 74, 75, and 76 at the bottom.

Fl.1 **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

Fl.2 **f**

Ob. **f**

Bsn. **f**

Cl. in B♭ 1 **f**

Cl. in B♭ 2 **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

B. Cl. **f**

A. Sax. 1 **f**

A. Sax. 2 **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

T. Sax. **f**

Bar. Sax. **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

Tpt in B♭ 1 **f**

Tpt in B♭ 2 **f**

Hn. 1 in F **f**

Hn. 2 in F **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

Tbn. 1 **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

Tbn. 2 **f**

Euph. **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

Tba. **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

Timp. **f**

Dr. **f** **mf** **musikverlag frank**

Tamb. **f**

Glock. **f**

77 78 79 80 81

This image shows a page of a musical score for a large orchestra. The score is written for various instruments, including Flutes (Fl. 1, 2), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets in Bb (Cl. in Bb 1, 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, 2, T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.), Trumpets in Bb (Tpt. in Bb 1, 2), Horns in F (Hn. 1, 2), Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Drums (Dr.), and Tambourine (Tamb.). The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo), *f* (forte), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The publisher's name, "musikverlag frank", is visible on the page. The page number "84" is at the bottom center.

This page of a musical score is for a symphony orchestra. It includes staves for the following instruments: Flute 1 & 2 (Fl.1, Fl.2), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Ban.), Clarinet in Bb 1 & 2 (Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone 1 & 2 (A. Sax.1, A. Sax.2), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.), Trumpet in Bb 1 & 2 (Tpt. in Bb 1, Tpt. in Bb 2), Horn 1 in F & 2 in F (Hn.1 in F, Hn.2 in F), Trombone 1 & 2 (Tbn.1, Tbn.2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Drums (Dr.), Tambourine (Tamb.), and Glockenspiel (Glock.).

The score features several dynamic markings: *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), *pp* (pianissimo), and *leggerio* (light). There are also accents and breath marks. The publisher's logo, "musikverlag frank", is visible on several staves. The page number "1" is in the top right corner.

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony. The page is numbered 92 at the bottom left. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments, including:

- Flutes (Fl. 1, Fl. 2)
- Oboe (Ob.)
- Bassoon (Bsn.)
- Clarinets in Bb (Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2)
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.)
- Alto Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, A. Sax. 2)
- Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.)
- Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.)
- Trumpets in Bb (Tpt. in Bb 1, Tpt. in Bb 2)
- Horns in F (Hn. 1 in F, Hn. 2 in F)
- Trombones (Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2)
- Euphonium (Euph.)
- Tuba (Tba.)
- Timpani (Timp.)
- Drums (Dr.)
- Bass Drum (B. Dr.)
- Cymbals (Xyl.)

The score includes various musical notations, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano). The publisher's logo, "musikverlag frank", is prominently displayed in the center of the page.

[illegible]

The image displays a page from a musical score, specifically measures 106 through 114. The score is for a full orchestra and includes parts for various instruments. The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is marked with various dynamics, including *pp* (pianissimo), *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *ff* (fortissimo). The publisher's logo, "musikverlag frank", is visible on the page. The score is for a piece titled "K", which is a symphony by Franz Schubert. The instruments listed on the left include Fl. 1, Fl. 2, Ob., Bsn., Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2, B. Cl., A. Sax. 1, A. Sax. 2, T. Sax., Bar. Sax., Tpt. in Bb 1, Tpt. in Bb 2, Hn. 1 in F, Hn. 2 in F, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Euph., Tba., Timp., Dr., B. Dr., and Xyl. The score is written in a standard musical notation with staves for each instrument. The measures are numbered at the bottom of the page, from 106 to 114. The score is marked with various dynamics, including *pp*, *p*, *mf*, and *ff*. The publisher's logo, "musikverlag frank", is visible on the page. The score is for a piece titled "K", which is a symphony by Franz Schubert.

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments, including Flutes (Fl. 1, 2), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinets in Bb (Cl. in Bb 1, 2), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, 2, T. Sax., Bar. Sax.), Trombones in Bb (Tpt. in Bb 1, 2), Horns in F (Hn. 1, 2), Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Drums (Dr.), Bass Drums (B. Dr.), and Xylophone (Xyl.). The score is in 4/4 time and features various dynamic markings, including 'mf' (mezzo-forte) and 'f' (forte). The publisher's name, 'musikverlag frank', is visible on the page. The page number '133' is at the bottom left, and the page number '140' is at the bottom right.

M

N

Fl.1 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Fl.2 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Ob. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Bsn. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *ff*

Cl. in Bb 1 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Cl. in Bb 2 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

B. Cl. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *ff*

A. Sax. 1 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

A. Sax. 2 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

T. Sax. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Bar. Sax. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Tpt. in Bb 1 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Tpt. in Bb 2 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Hn. 1 in F *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Hn. 2 in F *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Tbn. 1 *ff* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff*

Tbn. 2 *ff* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff*

Euph. *ff* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff*

Tba. *ff* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff*

Timp. *ff* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff*

Dr. *ff* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff*

B. Dr. *ff* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff*

Xyl. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *f*

141 142 143 144 145 146 147

musikverlag frank

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony or concert band. The score is written for a large ensemble of instruments. The instruments listed on the left side of the page are:

- Fl. 1
- Fl. 2
- Ob.
- Bsn.
- Cl. in Bb 1
- Cl. in Bb 2
- B. Cl.
- A. Sax. 1
- A. Sax. 2
- T. Sax.
- Bar. Sax.
- Tpt in Bb 1
- Tpt in Bb 2
- Hn. 1 in F
- Hn. 2 in F
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2
- Euph.
- Tba.
- Timp.
- Dr.
- B. Dr.
- Xyl.

The score is written in a standard musical notation with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked as "Allegretto" at the top. The score includes various dynamic markings, such as "mf" (mezzo-forte) and "ff" (fortissimo), and the publisher's name "musikverlag frank" is visible on several staves. The page number "148" is at the bottom left, and the page number "149" is at the bottom right.

[illegible]

Bringer of Hope

Largo ♩ = 60

Solo

0 Dramatico $\text{♩} = 80$ P Solo

Fl.1 *pp* *mf* *espressivo*

Fl.2

Ob.

Bsn. *pp*

Cl. in Bb 1 *mf* *dolce* Tutti *pp*

Cl. in Bb 2 *mf*

B. Cl.

A. Sax.1 *fff* *pp*

A. Sax.2 *pp*

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax. *fff* *pp*

Tpt. in Bb 1

Tpt. in Bb 2

Hn.1 in F *mf*

Hn.2 in F *mf*

Tbn.1 *fff* *pp*

Tbn.2 *fff* *pp*

Euph. *fff* *pp*

Tba. *fff* *pp*

Timp. *fff* *pp*

Dr.

Tam. To Sus. Cym. *ff*

Glock.

166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177

184

Fl.1 *cresc. poco a poco*

Fl.2 *cresc. poco a poco*

Ob.

Bsn. **mf** musikverlag frank

Cl. in B♭ 1 *cresc. poco a poco*

Cl. in B♭ 2 *cresc. poco a poco* **mf** musikverlag frank

B. Cl. *p cresc. poco a poco*

A. Sax. 1 *p cresc. poco a poco*

A. Sax. 2 *p cresc. poco a poco*

T. Sax. *p cresc. poco a poco* **mf** musikverlag frank

Bar. Sax. *p cresc. poco a poco*

Tpt in B♭ 1 *mf*

Tpt in B♭ 2 *mf*

Hn. 1 in F

Hn. 2 in F **mf** musikverlag frank

Tbn. 1 *p cresc. poco a poco*

Tbn. 2 *p cresc. poco a poco*

Euph. *p cresc. poco a poco* **mf** musikverlag frank

Tba. *p cresc. poco a poco*

Timp.

Dr. *pp* **mf** musikverlag frank

Sus. Cym.

Glock. *p cresc. poco a poco*

185 186 187 188 189

The image displays a page of a musical score, specifically measures 190 through 196. The score is for a full orchestra and includes parts for Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets in Bb 1 & 2, Bass Clarinet, Saxophones 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpets in Bb 1 & 2, Horns in F 1 & 2, Trombones 1 & 2, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Drums, Suspended Cymbal, and Glockenspiel. The score features various dynamics including *ff*, *mf*, and *f*, and includes performance instructions like "ff express" and "To Tri.". The publisher is Musikverlag Frank.

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony or concert band. The score is written for a large ensemble, including the following instruments:

- Flutes (Fl. 1, Fl. 2)
- Oboe (Ob.)
- Bassoon (Bsn.)
- Clarinets in Bb (Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2)
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.)
- Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, A. Sax. 2, T. Sax., Bar. Sax.)
- Trumpets in Bb (Tpt. in Bb 1, Tpt. in Bb 2)
- Horns in F (Hn. 1 in F, Hn. 2 in F)
- Trombones (Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2)
- Euphonium (Euph.)
- Tuba (Tba.)
- Timpani (Timp.)
- Drums (Dr.)
- Suspended Cymbal (Sus. Cym.)
- Triangle (Tri.)

The score includes various musical notations, such as triplets, dynamics (p, mf, ff), and articulation marks. The publisher's logo, "musikverlag frank", is visible on several staves. The page number "198" is at the bottom center, and the page number "200" is at the bottom right.