# THE LAST GLADIATOR 

(The Epic Story of St. Telemachus)

## TIMOTHY LOEST

INSTRUMENTATION



THE COMPOSER

Timothy Loest is a name in music synonymous with creativity, versatility, and accessibility. His works for young band are performed worldwide and his pedagogical methods and conducting appearances impact performers and audiences at the state and national levels. In 2017, his composition Cloud Gate (Reflections of a City) was performed for over 5,000 spectators at Chicago's Millennium Park. That same year, Tim received the Illinois Grade School Music Association's highest honor-the Cloyd Myers Memorial Award for Excellence in Music Education.

Tim had his first work published in 1995 and has written for Warner Bros. Publications, C.L. Barnhouse Company, The FJH Music Company, and MakeMusic Publications. In 2O22, he founded Fanfare Music Press, a company dedicated to the highest quality compositions and arrangements for band.

With over three decades in the classroom, Tim is no stranger to instrumental pedagogy; he is associated with several best-selling methods, including Measures of Success®: A Comprehensive Musicianship Band Method, Warm-ups and Beyond, Rhythms and Beyond, and Chorales and Beyond. Outside the classroom, Tim's music has appeared on numerous network TV shows, including The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, Good Morning America, Extra, and Nick Jr.

Tim received his Bachelor of Music Education degree with high honors fromillinois State University and his Master of Music degree with program honors from Northwestern University. He holds membership in ASCAP, the Illinois Grade School Music Association, and Christian Educators. He served his entire teaching career at F.E. Peacock Middle School in Itasca, Illinois, and resides in Wheaton, Illinois with his wife Cindy and two sons. Tim regularly accepts commissions for band and can be reached through hiswebsite: www.timothyloest.com.

## ABOUT THE MUSIC

The Last Gladiator is a musical depiction of the Roman gladiatorial games. It was composed in homage to St. Telemachus, a frail Eastern monk whose martyrdom resulted in the banning of gladiatorial fights.

According to historian Theodoret of Cyrus, Telemachus entered the arena, attempted to stop the combatants, and was then stoned to death by an angry crowd for disrupting their entertainment. This brave action motivated Honorius the Emperor to issue his historic ban on gladiatorial battles, the last of which occurred in 404 A.D. Alfred, Lord Tennyson, the great Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom, described the monk entering the arena in his poem, "St. Telemachus."
...As some great shock may wake a palsied limb,
Turn'd him again to boy, for up he sprang,
And glíded lightly down the stairs, and o'er
The barrier that divided beast from man
Slipt, and ran on, and flung himself between
The gladiatorial swords...
When rehearsing this work, musicians should produce a strong and supported sound to capture the resolute and fearless attitude of Roman gladiators. Musicians should also keep a steady beat and play in perfect sync with each other; this is especially essential in the bass ostinato which shifts its emphasis to the weak beat (beat 2) on the third measure of each four-measure pattern (see measures $3,7,11,15$, etc.).

Because percussion plays a vital role in this piece, it is critical that percussion be heard while maintaining proper balance. For instance, the snare drum should support and not overpower the mid tom-tom. While the bells may be doubled on other keyboard percussion instruments, care should be taken so that the texture does not become too muddy.

As you play The Last Gladiator in rehearsals or performances, remember that you are ambassadors of musicianship and that musical sharing is a unique and essential form of communication that enriches life. So, pursue excellence, play with heart, and enjoy the music!

## THE LAST GLADIATOR

（The Epic Story of St．Telemachus）
Aggressively（ $\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{d}}=\mathbf{1 5 2}$ ）






Cl.
B. Cl.

A. Sax.


Tpt.

Hn.

$$
25
$$



Bsn. /
Tbn. /
Euph.

Tuba


Mlt.
Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3


Fl.

Cl.

A. Sax.
T. Sax.
B. Sax.


Tpt.

Hn.


MIt.
Perc.

Perc. 1


Fl.

Cl.

A. Sax.


Tpt.

Hn.


Merc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3


41 poco a poco rit.



