

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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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

Score $\text{♩} = 140$ ($\text{♩} = 70$)

Commissioned by the Duncanville ISD in honor of Tom and Verda Shine

William Pitts
(ASCAP)

The score is for a concert band or orchestra. It features the following instruments and parts:

- Woodwinds:** 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, and Bari Sax.
- Brass:** 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, and Tuba.
- Percussion:** Piano, Timpani, Marimba, Bells, Percussion 1 (Triangle, Gong, Crash Cymbal), Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal), and Percussion 3 (Chimes, Crash Cymbal, Bass Drum).

The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B♭). The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 140$ ($\text{♩} = 70$). The dynamics range from *mf* (mezzo-forte) to *f* (forte). The score is divided into four measures, with a large watermark 'Sample Score' overlaid diagonally 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 large 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** (Trombones)
- 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. A large 'Sample Score' watermark is visible across the page.

Spark - Score

11

The score is for a piece titled "Spark" and is page 5 of the score. The page number "11" is prominently displayed in a box at the top center. The music is in 4/4 time and features a variety of instruments. The woodwinds (Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboes 1 & 2, Bassoon, Clarinets in Bb, Bass Clarinet, and Saxophones in A, Tenor, and Baritone) play a melodic line with frequent triplet patterns. The brass section (Trumpets 1-3, Horns 1-2, Trombones 1-3, Euphonium, and Tuba) provides harmonic support, with some instruments playing sustained notes and others playing rhythmic patterns. The Piano part features a complex accompaniment with triplets and dynamic markings like *f* and *mp*. The Marimba, Bells, and Percussion (Perc. 1, 2, 3) also contribute to the overall texture. The score is marked with a large "SAMPLE SCORE" watermark.

Spark - Score

6

16

This musical score page, numbered 6, covers measures 14 through 18. The title is "Spark". A large box containing the number "16" is positioned at the top center. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument family. 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 includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, time signatures, and dynamic markings like *f*, *ff*, and *mp*. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "SAMPLE SCORE" is oriented diagonally across the page. Measure numbers 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 are printed at the bottom of the page, aligned with their respective measures.

Spark - Score

20

23

7

This musical score is for the piece "Spark" and covers measures 19 through 24. It is a full orchestral score with the following instruments and parts:

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

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

Spark - Score

8

27

This musical score page, titled "Spark - Score", covers measures 25 through 30. It is a full orchestral score with the following instruments and parts:

- Woodwinds:** Piccolo (Picc.), Flute 1 (Fl. 1), Flute 2 (Fl. 2), Oboe 1, Oboe 2, Bassoon (Bsn.), B♭ Clarinet 1 (B♭ Clar. 1), B♭ Clarinet 2 (B♭ Clar. 2), Bass Clarinet (Bass Clar.), Alto Saxophone 1 (A Sax 1), Alto Saxophone 2 (A Sax 2), Tenor Saxophone (T Sax), and Baritone Saxophone (Bari Sax).
- Brass:** B♭ Trumpet 1 (B♭ Tpt. 1), B♭ Trumpet 2 (B♭ Tpt. 2), B♭ Trumpet 3 (B♭ Tpt. 3), Horn 1, Horn 2, Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2), Trombone 3 (Tbn. 3), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba.
- Keyboard and Percussion:** Piano, Marimba, Bells, and three Percussion parts (Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3).

The score includes various dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The Piano part features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sixteenth notes. The Marimba and Bells parts also have intricate rhythmic figures. The Percussion parts provide a steady accompaniment. The overall texture is dense and dynamic, typical of a modern orchestral work.

Spark - Score

10 42

43 44 45 46 47 48 49

Picc. *mf*

Fl. 1 *mf*

Fl. 2 *mf*

Oboe 1

Oboe 2

Bsn.

B♭ Clar. 1

B♭ Clar. 2

Bass Clar.

A Sax 1

A Sax 2

T Sax

Bari Sax *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2 *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *mf*

Horn 1 *f*

Horn 2 *f*

Tbn. 1 *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf*

Tbn. 3 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Piano

Timp. *f*

Marimba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp*

Perc. 3

42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49

Spark - Score

50

The score is for a piece titled "Spark" and covers measures 50 through 54. The instrumentation includes Piccolo, Flute 1 and 2, Oboe 1 and 2, Bassoon, Clarinet in Bb 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone 1 and 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpet 1, 2, and 3, Horn 1 and 2, Trombone 1, 2, and 3, Euphonium, Tuba, Piano, Timpani, Marimba, and Bells. The score features a variety of musical notations, including triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings such as *mf*, *p*, *cresc.*, and *f*. A large "Sample Score" watermark is visible across the page.

50

51

52

53

54

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 symphony orchestra and includes the following instruments and 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**
- Tbn. 1**, **Tbn. 2**, and **Tbn. 3** (Trombones)
- Euph.** (Euphonium)
- Tuba**
- Piano**
- Timp.** (Timpani)
- Marimba**
- Bells**
- Perc. 1**, **Perc. 2**, and **Perc. 3** (Percussion, including gong and crash cymbal)

The score features a variety of musical notations, including triplets, dynamic markings (e.g., *f*, *fp*, *ff*, *mf*, *cresc.*), and articulation marks. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "SAMPLE" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

55

56

57

58

59

60

Spark - Score

61

62

63

64 molto rit.

65

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The top section includes woodwinds (Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboes 1 & 2, Bassoon, Clarinets in Bb, Bass Clarinet, Saxophones in A, Tenor, and Baritone), brass (Trumpets 1-3, Horns 1 & 2, Trombones 1-3, Euphonium, and Tuba), and strings (Piano, Marimba, Bells, and three Percussion parts). The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked 'molto rit.' starting at measure 64. Dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *f* (forte). The woodwinds and strings play sustained notes, while the piano and marimba play rhythmic patterns of eighth notes in triplets. The percussion parts are mostly silent, with some activity in measures 64 and 65.

67 68 69 70 71 72 73

Picc *f*

Fl. 1 *f*

Fl. 2 *f*

Oboe 1 *f*

Oboe 2 *f*

Bsn.

B♭ Clar. 1 *f*

B♭ Clar. 2 *f*

Bass Clar.

A Sax 1

A Sax 2

T Sax

Bari Sax

Slowly, Out of time

B♭ Tpt. 1 *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *ff*

Horn 1 *ff*

Horn 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ff*

Tbn. 2 *ff*

Tbn. 3 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Piano

Timp. *ff*

Marimba

Bells *f*

Perc. 1 *f*
triangle

Perc. 2 *com*

Perc. 3 *ff*

66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73

74 Tempo I

75 76 77

Picc. *mf*

Fl. 1 *mf*

Fl. 2 *mf*

Oboe 1 *mf*

Oboe 2 *mf*

Bsn.

B♭ Clar. 1 *mf*

B♭ Clar. 2 *mf*

Bass Clar.

A Sax 1 *mf*

A Sax 2 *mf*

T Sax

Bari Sax *mf*

Tempo I

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 3 *mf*

Horn 1 *mf*

Horn 2 *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf*

Tbn. 3 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba *f*

Piano *8va*

Timp. *mf* *cresc.*

Marimba

Bells

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp*

Perc. 3

Spark - Score

16 **78** molto rit.

This page of the score covers measures 78 to 83. It is marked **78** and *molto rit.*. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Picc:** Piccolo, playing a melodic line.
- Fl. 1, Fl. 2:** Flutes, playing the same melodic line as the piccolo.
- Oboe 1, Oboe 2:** Oboes, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- Bsn.:** Bassoon, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- B♭ Clar. 1, B♭ Clar. 2:** Clarinets, playing the melodic line.
- Bass Clar.:** Bass Clarinet, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- A Sax 1, A Sax 2:** Alto Saxophones, playing the melodic line.
- T Sax:** Tenor Saxophone, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- Bari Sax:** Baritone Saxophone, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, B♭ Tpt. 3:** Trumpets, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- Horn 1, Horn 2:** Horns, playing a melodic line.
- Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Tbn. 3:** Trombones, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- Euph.:** Euphonium, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- Tuba:** Tuba, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment.
- Piano:** Playing a rhythmic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Marimba:** Playing a rhythmic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Bells:** Playing a rhythmic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *f*.
- Perc. 1:** Crash cymbal, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *ff*.
- Perc. 2:** Chimes, playing a sustained harmonic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *ff*.
- Perc. 3:** Bass drum, playing a rhythmic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *f*.

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings. A large watermark "SAMPLE SCORE" is visible across the page.