Wildfire!

by

Gary P. Gilroy (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 – Complete Score

10 - Flute

2 - Oboe

2 – Bassoon

5 – Clarinet 1

5 – Clarinet 2

2 – Bass Clarinet

4 – Alto Saxophone

2 - Tenor Saxophone

2 – Baritone Saxophone

4 – Trumpet 1

4 – Trumpet 2

4 – Horn in F

6 - Trombone

2 – Euphonium B.C.

2 – Euphonium T.C.

4 – Tuba

2 - Mallet Percussion

2 - Percussion 1

2 – Percussion 2

Wildfire!

Wildfire! was composed in the summer of 2013 after the composer witnessed the power and devastation of a fire out of control. The composer writes:

It was Thursday, July 4, 2013 when I was visiting a former colleague/band director, Roxanna Macheel, at her new retirement home on Lake Chelan, Washington. We were sitting on her back deck facing the lake when we saw a small puff of smoke coming from across the lake where there were no roads and just a few homes that were accessible only by boat. Roxanna immediately called the fire department and it was not long that a boat showed up with firefighters. The fire was moving quickly but what we saw was mostly just smoke. Soon a helicopter arrived with a huge container attached. It was amazing to see the talented pilot get water from the lake and drop it in just the right spots. We watched the firefighters through a scope Roxanna had as they did what they could with their shovels and other equipment. However, the driving force of the wildfire made all these efforts seem quite minimal and the fire spread rapidly and relentlessly. Hours later the fire was going stronger than ever and as the sun set and darkness filled the sky it now became much easier to see what was really going on. The mountainside glowed all over and it was clear that this wildfire was out of control. The wind was intense that night which made the firefighting efforts that much more demanding. It was a powerful experience for me to see this devastation taking place firsthand and I found it frustrating to know that I could do nothing to help. Even the talented firefighters faced a nearly impossible task. This wildfire was intense, driving and all consuming! I compose this work in honor of the men and women who fight fires throughout our world.

Gary P. Gilroy (ASCAP) Born June 10, 1958



Gary P. Gilroy is a Professor of Music and Director of Bands at California State University, Fresno. In 1993 he was appointed Associate Director of Bands and Director of the Bulldog Marching Band. After 13 years in this position and building one of the finest collegiate marching bands on the west coast, Dr. Gilroy became Director of Bands in 2006. Prior to this appointment he served for a decade as Director of Bands at Fred C. Beyer High School in Modesto, California where his band was awarded several national honors as well as the International Sudler Shield Award from the John Philip Sousa Foundation. Gilroy also served as faculty at CSU, Stanislaus and graduate assistant at the University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon where he completed his doctorate in 1995.

Gilroy has served on the board of California Band Directors Association for fourteen years and he is a Past President of that organization. He is also a Past President of the Fresno Madera Counties Music Educators Association. From 1999 to 2006 he served on the board of the National Band Association as a Member At Large and the Western Division Chairman.

Dr. Gilroy is in demand as a guest conductor of many honor bands throughout the United States. As an adjudicator and guest conductor he has served in 39 states and

throughout Canada. Dr. Gilroy has been the conductor for all state groups in Colorado and Oregon as well as the California Band Directors Association All-State High School Symphonic Band.

An ASCAP Award-winning composer, Gilroy's music is published for concert band, marching band, and various ensembles through the Arrangers Publishing Company, BRS Music, Inc., C. Alan Publications, Daehn Publications, Kagarice Brass Editions, Matrix Publications, TRN Publications, Warner Brothers, Wingert-Jones, Inc., and CPP/Belwin Mills. His compositions have been featured at the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis, the Eastern Trombone Workshop in Washington, DC, the International Trombone Festival in New Orleans, and on many occasions at the International Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. Additionally, Gilroy's compositions have been performed by many regional and state honor bands throughout the United States. Dr. Gilroy served as the arranger/composer for the 2008 Olympic Orchestra in Beijing, China. He has been an ASCAP Composers Award recipient every year since 2001.

Dr. Gilroy and his wife Dena have lived in Clovis, California since 1993. His daughter, Alexandra, graduated from UCLA in 2010 and is currently a graduate assistant in band at UNLV and his son, Nicholas, is a music major at CSU, Long Beach.











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