

# Pieces of Eight

*Sample*

*by*

Gary P. Gilroy  
(ASCAP)

*Grade: 4 Duration: 4:48*

## Instrumentation

1 - Conductor Score

10 - Flute

2 - Oboe

2 - Bassoon

3 - B♭ Clarinet 1

3 - B♭ Clarinet 2

4 - B♭ Clarinet 3

2 - B♭ Bass Clarinet

1 - B♭ Contrabass Clarinet

2 - Alto Saxophone 1

2 - Alto Saxophone 2

2 - Tenor Saxophone

2 - Baritone Saxophone

3 - B♭ Trumpet 1

3 - B♭ Trumpet 2

3 - B♭ Trumpet 3

2 - Horn in F 1

2 - Horn in F 2

3 - Trombone 1

3 - Trombone 2

2 - Euphonium (+2 T.C.)

4 - Tuba

1 - Timpani

2 - Mallets I

Marimba, Vibraphone

2 - Mallets II

Bells, Xylophone, Chimes, Marimba,  
Vibraphone

2 - Percussion I

(one player)

Low Tom, 2 Brake Drums, Suspended  
Cymbal, Splash Cymbal, Zil Bell, Cabassa

2 - Percussion II

(one player)

Snare Drum, Low Wood Block, Medium  
Block, Snare Drum, Triangle, Rute Sticks

2 - Percussion III

(two players)

Bass Drum, Gong, Crash Cymbals,  
Suspended Cymbal, Vibraphone

2 - Percussion IV

(one player)

Low Tom, Cow Bell, China boy, Triangle,  
Hi-Hat

# Pieces of Eight

**Pieces of Eight** was commissioned by Band Parents Bret and Lori Niedens, in commemoration of their family's 18-year relationship with Mr. Kelly Berdahl, Director of Bands at Bozeman High School, in Bozeman, Montana. Mr. Berdahl mentored their eight children during their time involved with the BHS Marching Band: Tera (Clarinet), Rae Ann (Violin/Color Guard), Kent (Oboe/Cymbals/Pit Percussion), Amy (Flute/Color Guard), Keri (Low Brass), James (Trumpet), Sierra (French Horn/Mellophone) and Tiffany (Bari Saxophone/Drum Major). The Niedens have been witness to and extremely grateful for the profound impact the Marching Band experience had on their children, who are all now young adults. *Pieces of Eight* was premiered on Thursday, May 27, 2021, by the Bozeman High School Band with Director of Bands, Mr. Kelly Berdahl conducting.

Fully appreciating the importance of parent volunteers in a successful band program, the Niedens wrote:

We also wish to honor ALL of the marching band parents who volunteered time and resources by chaperoning, providing or serving food, schlepping equipment and back drops, and experiencing the oblivious wonderment of all the students over all the years.

The Niedens' involvement with the Bozeman High School Marching Band began with a few years of assisting in the construction of field show props and equipment transport. They soon realized there was a need for feeding the band on competition trips to avoid expensive restaurant charges. They spearheaded this endeavor and ultimately spawned a massive culinary operation resulting in their almost single-handedly providing the 125-person marching band entourage six meals over weekend trips, which they continued for over a decade, effectively becoming the "ultimate band parents"!

When the Niedens family first became involved with the BHS Band program, their youngest, Tiffany, was only two years old. *Pieces of Eight* was commissioned with the intent of being performed by the Bozeman High School Symphony Band, on her final high school band concert, May 27, 2021, memorably closing the chapter on the eighteen-year era of the Niedens family with the BHS Bands.

The composer felt a close association with the Niedens family, Mr. Berdahl and the Bozeman High School Band. Dr. Gilroy first knew Kelly Berdahl in his first job as Director of Bands at East Bakersfield High School in Bakersfield, California. They developed a long-standing friendship over the years. Growing up in a family of eight children was nothing new to Dr. Gilroy. He relates quite well to the Niedens family having been raised in his own family of eight children. On several occasions over the years, Dr. Gilroy has served as a Guest Conductor for the Bozeman High School Band and various honor bands in the Montana area. He has nothing but fond memories of the Bozeman High School band room and concert hall.

Composer Gary P. Gilroy states:

Writing this work for the Niedens family was really special for me since I grew up in a similar situation. I know what it is like to stuff a family of ten into a station wagon! There were certainly some challenges along the way but also many wonderful advantages to sharing one's home with such a large gang.

Somewhere in my high school days I realized how special the number eight was. It seemed like so many fragments of music were in sets of 8 counts and so many phrases were combinations of eight beats and/or eight measures. And then, of course, as a young high school marching band student, we were taught how important "8 to 5" was marching eight even steps of 22 ½ inches to cover five yards. It seemed to me that all of music was related to the number eight!

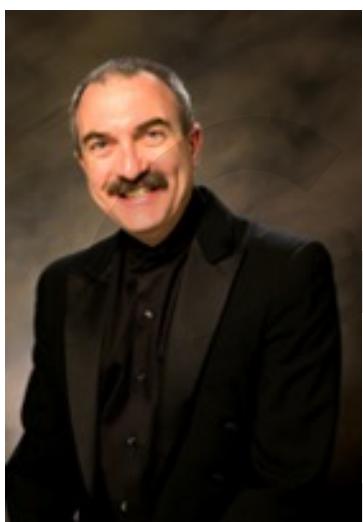
This composition came together quite naturally much in thanks to constantly dealing with the number 8. I made one reference after another to the number eight when dealing with rhythms, note sets, scalar passages and even harmonies through various clusters of eight pitches.

The work begins with eight counts of 16<sup>th</sup> notes from the marimba establishing the key of Bb. Muted trumpets are layered on top of the continuing marimba ostinato presenting their own short eight-note fragment. Percussionists respond to the trumpets with their own eight-note fragment. Various winds and orchestra bells follow with a descending eight-note scalar cluster of harmony. And so it goes. There are few phrases, if any, that don't have *some* connection to the number eight.

A special nod to the Montana All-State Honor Band Student, Tiffany Niedens, comes in measure 91 in the form of a Baritone Saxophone solo. This solo was first performed by Miss Niedens at the premiere in the Spring of 2021.

## Gary P. Gilroy (ASCAP)

Born June 9, 1954



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.

In March of 2014 Dr. Gilroy was voted into the membership of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. He served on the board of California Band Directors Association for fourteen years and he is a Past President of that organization. In 2009 Dr. Gilroy was given the *Distinguished Service Award* and in 2015 the *Don Schmeer Friend of Music* award from CBDA. Gilroy is also a Past President of the Fresno Madera Counties Music Educators Association. In 2016 Dr. Gilroy was again honored with the *CMEA John Swain/College/University Educator* award from the California 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.

In 2017 Dr. Gilroy was a co-founder of the Wind Symphony of Clovis, a group of semi-professional musicians from California. After being in existence for less than a year the band was accepted to perform at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. Their December-2018 performance earned them an immediate standing ovation at the conclusion of the concert.

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 40 states, Canada, China and England. Dr. Gilroy has been the conductor for all state groups in Colorado, Iowa, Nevada and Oregon as well as the All-Northwest Wind Symphony, the California Band Directors Association All-State Junior High School Symphonic Band and the All-State High School Symphonic Band.

An ASCAP Award-winning composer with more than 200 publications to his credit, 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, Gary P. Gilroy Publications, Kagarice Brass Editions, Matrix Publications, TRN Publications, Warner Brothers, Wingert-Jones, Inc., TrevCo Music Publishing and CPP/Belwin Mills. His compositions have been featured at the American Bandmasters Association Convention, 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, has music degrees from UCLA and UNLV and is currently a music teacher in the Clovis (CA) Unified School District and his son, Nicholas, is a graduate of CSU, Long Beach and a music teacher and freelance percussionist who makes his living as the Cellar Master at Ficklin Vineyards in Madera, California.

# Pieces of Eight

Gary P. Gilroy (ASCAP)

**Steadily  $\downarrow = 112$**

Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

B♭ Clarinet 1

2 B♭ Clarinet

3 B♭ Bass Clarinet

B♭ Contrabass

Clarinet

Alto Saxophone

2 Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpet 1

2 B♭ Trumpet

1 Horn in F

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Euphonium

Tuba

Timpani  
F, B♭, C, F

Mallets I  
Marimba, Vibraphone

Mallets II  
Bells, Xylophone, Chimes, Marimba, Vibraphone

Percussion I  
(One Player)  
Low Tom, 2 Brake Drums, Sus Cym, Splash Cym, Zil Bell, Cabasa,

Percussion II  
(One Player)  
Snare Drum, Low Wood Block, Med Wood Block Snare Drum, Triangle, Rute Sticks,

Percussion III  
(Two Players)  
Bass Drum, Gong, Crash Cym, Suspended Cym, Vibraslap,

Percussion IV  
(One Player)  
Low Tom, Cow Bell, China Boy, Triangle, Hi-Hat,

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5

6

7

8

9

10

F1.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlts. I

Mlts. II

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

Fl. 11 *mp* 12 *mf*

Ob. 13 *mp* 14 *f* 15 *mp*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *mp* 16 *mf* 17 *f* 18 *mp*

Cl. 2 19 *mp* 20 *mf* 21 *f* 22 *mp*

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1 *mp* 23 *mf* 24 *mp* 25 *p*

T. Sx. 26 *mp* 27 *mf* 28 *mp* 29 *p*

B. Sx. 30 *mp*

Tpt. 1 31 *mp* open 32 *p*

Tpt. 2 33 *mp* 34 *p*

Hn. 1 35 *mp* 36 *p*

Tbn. 1 37 *mp* 38 *p*

Tbn. 2 39 *mp* 40 *p*

Euph. 41 *mp* 42 *p*

Tuba 43 *mp*

Timpani 44 *p* 45 *mp*

Mlts. I 46 *f* 47 *mp* 48 *p*

Mlts. II 49 *mp* 50 *f* 51 *mp*

Xylo

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

16                    17                    18                    19                    20

Fl.                    Ob.                    Bsn.                    Cl. 1                    f  
mf                    f                    ffp  
f                    ff  
ff

Cl. 2                    Cl. 3                    B. Cl.                    Contra.                    B. Cl.  
mf                    f                    ffp  
f                    ff  
ff

A. Sx. 1                    A. Sx. 2                    T. Sx.                    B. Sx.  
mp                    mf                    ff  
ff                    f  
f                    ff

Tpt. 1                    Tpt. 2                    Tpt. 3                    Hn. 1                    Hn. 2  
mp                    mf                    f                    ff  
ff                    v.v.  
v.v.

Tbn. 1                    Tbn. 2                    Euph.                    Tuba  
mp                    mf                    ff  
ff                    f  
f                    dampen  
dampen                    let ring

Timpani                    Mlts. I                    Mlts. II                    Perc. I  
mf                    f                    f  
f                    mp < ff

Mlts. I                    Mlts. II                    Perc. II                    Perc. III  
mp                    mf                    f  
f                    f  
f  
f

Perc. IV                    Very Low Tom                    Sus Cym w/yarn mlt  
crescendo from nothing ppp                    8va  
Splash Cymbal

p                    mp                    f  
f  
f

f                    pp                    f  
f

1. Bass Drum  
2. Gong  
Chinaboy & Low Tom



27

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn. 1

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timpani

Mlts. I

Mlts. II

Perc. I

Perc. II

*fp* — *mp* — *mf*

Perc. III

Perc. IV

28

29

30

31



38

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn. 1

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timpani

Mlts. I

Mlts. II

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

39 (b)

40 (b)

41 (b)

42

43

*ff*

*ff*

*f p f*

*pp mf pp mf pp mf*

Fl. Ob. Bsn. Cl. 1 Cl. 2 B. Cl. Contra B. Cl. A. Sx. T. Sx. B. Sx.

Tpt. 1 Tpt. 2 Hn. 1 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2 Euph. Tuba

Tim. Mlts. I Mlts. II

Perc. I Perc. II Perc. III Perc. IV

Fl. Ob. Bsn. Cl. 1 Cl. 2 Cl. 3 B. Cl. Contra B. Cl. A. Sx. 1 A. Sx. 2 T. Sx. B. Sx.

Tpt. 1 Tpt. 2 Hn. 1 Hn. 2 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2 Euph. Tuba

Tim. Mlts. I Mlts. II Perc. I Perc. II Perc. III Perc. IV

50 51 52 53 54 55

*fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* simile

*fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* simile

*ff p*

Chimes *f* Ped.

*ff p*

*ff p*

*ff p*

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mlts. I

Mlts. II

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

*fp simile*

60

dampen all drums

dampen re-tune "C" up to "Db"

dampen

dampen on one

Splash & Brake Drum

2 Brake Drums

Low Tom

1. Muted Bass Drum

Cow Bell

Chinaboy + Low Tom

Cow Bell



70                      71                      72                      73                      74

Fl.                      fff                      ppp  
Ob.                      fff                      ppp  
Bsn.  
Cl. 1                      fff                      ppp  
Cl. 2                      fff                      ppp  
B. Cl.  
Contra B. Cl.  
A. Sx. 1                      fff                      ppp  
T. Sx.                      fff                      ppp  
B. Sx.  
Tpt. 1                      fff                      ppp  
Tpt. 2                      fff                      ppp  
Hn. 1                      fff                      ppp  
Tbn. 1                      fff                      ppp  
Tbn. 2                      fff                      ppp  
Euph.  
Tuba  

Tim. pp — ff — f — mf — mp — p — pp — ppp — let ring

Mlts. I move to Marimba while Chimes sustain  
Mlts. II Marimba

Zil Bell

Perc. I f Triangle w/thick btr  
Perc. II ff 2. Gong /w thick Tri btr  
Perc. III normal ff Large Triangle w/thick btr  
Perc. IV ff

75

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

75 w/straight mute

Tpt. 1  
Tpt. 2  
Tpt. 3  
Hn.  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
Euph.  
Tuba  
Timpani

*mp*  
w/straight mute

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

strike upside-down crotale on top drum & then gliss pedal up

*f* let ring

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl. *mp*

Contra B. Cl. *mp*

A. Sx. 1  
2 *pp* *mf* *f* *mp* *mf*

T. Sx. *mp*

B. Sx. *mp*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1  
2 *pp* *mf* *f* *mp* *mf*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Timpani pull superball mallet along lowest drum while glissing from highest to lowest pitch *p* *f* *f* let ring

Marimba *mp* *pp* *p* *pp*

Mlts. I

Mlts. II *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

Perc. I

Perc. II Triangle (muted and unmuted)

Perc. III 2. Coin Scrape on Gong *mf*

Perc. IV Hi-Hat *p* *mf*

Fl. Ob. Bsn. Cl. 1 Cl. 2 Cl. 3 B. Cl. Contra B. Cl. A. Sx. 1 A. Sx. 2 T. Sx. B. Sx. Tpt. 1 Tpt. 2 Hn. 1 Hn. 2 Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2 Euph. Tuba Timp. Mlt. I Mlt. II Perc. I Perc. II Perc. III Perc. IV

86 87 88 89 90 91

**91**

*Solo* **fff**

**91**

*pull superball mallet along lowest drum while glissando from highest to lowest pitch*

**p** **f**

**p** **pp** **p** **pp** **p** **p**

**1. Vibraslap**

**2. Coin Scrape on Gong**

**f**

**Hi-Hat (open & closed)**

**p < mf**

**mp**

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Tim. I

strike upside-down crotale on top drum & then gliss pedal up

f let ring

Mlts. I

Mlts. II

Perc. I

Perc. II

1. Vibraslap

Perc. III

Hi-Hat (open & closed)

Perc. IV





Fl.

Ob.

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1 *mf* *f*

Cl. 2 *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mp*

Contra B. Cl. *mp*

A. Sx. 1 *mf* *f*

T. Sx. *mf* *f*

B. Sx. *mp*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 *mf* *f*

Hn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 1 *mp*

Tbn. 2 *mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Timp. *mp*

Mlts. I *mf* *f*

Mlts. II *mf* *f*

Perc. I *Splash Cymbal*

Perc. II *Snare Drum*

Perc. III 1. Bass Drum *fp* *mp* *mf* *fp* *mp* *mf*

Perc. IV *mp* *mf*

Fl. *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *mf* *f*

Cl. 2 *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *fp* *mp* *ff*

Contra B. Cl. *fp* *mp* *ff*

A. Sx. 1 *fp* *ff*

T. Sx. *fp* *ff*

B. Sx. *pp* *ff*

Tpt. 1 *mf* *f*

Tpt. 2 *fp* *ff*

Tpt. 3 *fp* *ff*

Hn. 1 *fp* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *pp* *ff*

Tbn. 2 *pp* *ff*

Euph. *fp* *ff*

Tuba *fp* *mp* *ff*

Timpani *p* *f*

Mlts. I *mf* *ff* Bells

Mlts. II *mf* *f*

Perc. I Sus Cym w/yarn mlt  
crescendo from nothing *ppp* *f*

Perc. II *fp* *mp* *mf* *ff p* *mf* *fp* *mf* 1. Bass Drum  
2. Crash Cymbals

Perc. III *Very Low Tom* *mf* Chinaboy & Low Tom

Perc. IV *p* *mf* *pp*

118

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Contra

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn. 1

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timpani

Mlts. I

Mlts. II

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Perc. IV

119

120

121

122

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*mf*





Fl. *mp* *f*

Ob. *mp* *f*

Bsn.

Cl. 1 *mp* *f*

Cl. 2 *mp* *f*

Cl. 3 *mp* *f*

B. Cl.

Contra B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1, 2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

**136**

Tpt. 1, 2, 3

Hn. 1, 2

Tbn. 1, 2

Euph.

Tuba

**136**

Timp. *p*

Mlts. I *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

Vibes

Mlts. II *mp* *f* *p* *mf* *mf*

Ped.

Perc. I

Rute Sticks - hold high in the air and strike against each other

Perc. II *p* *f* *p*

Perc. III

Perc. IV

closed Hi-Hat *p* *f* *p*

w/straight mute *mf* w/straight mute *mf*

Snare Drum w/wire brushes *ppp*







