

# Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

## Overture for Wind Band

Op. 24

Adapted and Arranged for modern  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble

by

Merlin Patterson

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) composed the original version of this delightful music in the summer of 1824 while he and his father were vacationing at the fashionable seaside resort of Bad Doberan on the Baltic. The resort boasted a very fine wind band, so fine that the fifteen-year-old composer, who was already widely acclaimed throughout Europe as a child prodigy, felt compelled to compose a work for the group to perform at one its concerts. The original score, bearing the title *Nocturno*, was written for one flute, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, one trumpet, and one English bass horn, a conical bore upright instrument, serpent shaped like a bassoon. This *Nocturno* was in fact an early version of the *Ouverture für Harmoniemusik (Overture for Wind Band)*, *Op. 24*, the final definitive version of which dates from 1838.

For many years, the original *Nocturno* was thought to be lost until sometime in 1838; it was rediscovered and revised by the composer. For the 1838 version, Mendelssohn made substantial changes, the most notable of which were several subtle harmonic alterations, a reworking of the dotted rhythm fanfare calls in the transition from the andante to the allegro, and an extension of the coda by three measures. This new work, now entitled *Ouverture für Harmoniemusik (Overture for Wind Band)*, *Op. 24*, was scored for a standard German military band of one piccolo, one flute, two clarinets in F, two clarinets in C, two oboes, two bassoons, one contrabassoon, one English bass horn, two horns in C, two horns in F, two trumpets in C, two tenor trombones, one bass trombone, side drum, bass drum, triangle, and cymbals. In November of 1838, Mendelssohn sent his publisher, Simrock, the new version of the overture as well as an arrangement for piano four-hands, but it was not published until 1852 following the composer's death.

The work is a model of objective romanticism and the fifteen-year-old Mendelssohn's precocity is all the more amazing when one considers the work's maturity and craftsmanship. A Weberian 'Andante con moto' introduction leads to a lively 'Allegro vivace' in sonata form. The style is graceful and elegant, the form clear and purposeful, and the melodic and harmonic construction beautifully conceived.

The present version, scored for modern symphonic wind ensemble, is based on the 1838 revision, presumably the mature Mendelssohn's final thoughts on the work. The composer's original linear writing has been retained, though re-scored for modern instrumentation, while new parts have been written for bass and contra clarinets, saxophones, euphonium, tuba, and double bass. Further, a timpani part, not composed by Mendelssohn, has been added; the goal of which is to give the work a more "symphonic" sound and scope. The conductor should consider its inclusion optional. The conductor might also consider the percussion parts optional as well. Though Mendelssohn did write these parts for the 1838 version, it seems likely they were included merely to adhere to the standard instrumentation of a conventional German military band, which would have performed most of its concerts outdoors. They have been included in the present modern edition for authenticity's sake, but their use - with the exception of the triangle in Ms. 86-95 and 169-178 - in modern concert hall performances is discouraged. It is the arranger's preference that the work be performed with percussion instrumentation of only timpani and triangle.

# Overture for Wind Band

Op. 24

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Adapted and arranged for modern Symphonic Wind Ensemble by  
Merlin Patterson

Andante con moto (♩=66)

7

Piccolo

Flute 1.

Flute 2.

Oboe 1. 2.

B-flat Clarinet 1.

B-flat Clarinet 2.

B-flat Clarinet 3.

B-flat Clarinet 4.

Bass Clarinet

E-flat Contra Clarinet

Bassoon 1.

Bassoon 2.

Contrabassoon

Alto Saxophone 1.

Alto Saxophone 2.

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

C Trumpet 1.

C Trumpet 2.

C Trumpet 3.

F Horn 1. 2.

F Horn 3. 4.

Tenor Trombone 1.

Tenor Trombone

Bass Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Double Bass

Timpani

Triangle

Snare Drum

Bass Drum/Cymbals

Picc. *p* *dim.* *pp*  
 Flt. 1. *p* *dim.* *pp*  
 Flt. 2. *p* *pp*  
 Ob. 1. 2. *p* *dim.* *pp*  
 Clar. 1. *p* *one* *pp* *all* *p* *dim.* *pp*  
 Clar. 2. *p* *one* *pp* *all* *p* *dim.* *pp*  
 Clar. 3. *p* *pp*  
 Clar. 4. *p* *pp*  
 Bs Clar. *p* *pp*  
 Cntr. Clar. *p* *pp*  
 Bsn. 1. *p* *pp*  
 Bsn. 2. *p* *pp*  
 Cntrbssn. *p* *pp*  
 Alt. Sx. 1. *p*  
 Alt. Sx. 2. *p*  
 Ten. Sx. *p*  
 Bar. Sx. *p*  
 Trpt. 1. *pp*  
 Trpt. 2. *pp*  
 Trpt. 3. *pp*  
 Hn. 1. 2. *pp* *p* *pp*  
 Hn. 3. 4. *pp* *p* *pp*  
 Ten. Trbn. 1. *pp*  
 Ten. Trbn. 2. *pp*  
 Bs Trbn. *pp*  
 Euph. *p* *pp*  
 Tuba *p* *pp*  
 Dbl. Bs. *p* *pp*  
 Timp. *pp*  
 Perc. *pp* *pp* *pp*

Overture for Wind Band

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1.2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Contr. Clar.

Bssn. 1.

Bssn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1.2.

Hn. 3.4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba.

Dbl. Bs.

Timp.

Perc.

1. Solo

one

Hn. 3.

Bssn. 2.

*p*

*sf*

*pp*

This page intentionally blank

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Contr. Clar.

Bsn. 1.

Bsn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Dbl. Bs.

Timp.

Perc.

two only

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 1

Dbl. Bs.

Sn. Dr.

*p*, *f*, *sf*, *fp*, *cresc.*

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Contr. Clar.

Bssn. 1.

Bssn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Dbl. Bs

Timp.

Perc.

*dim.*

*pp*

*p*

Bssn. 1. 2.

Bssn. 2.

Overture for Wind Band

Picc. *f*

Flt. 1. *f*

Flt. 2. *f*

Ob. 1. 2. *f*

Clar. 1. *f*

Clar. 2. *f*

Clar. 3. *f*

Clar. 4. *f*

Bs Clar. *f*

Contr. Clar. *f*

Bssn. 1. *f*

Bssn. 2. *f*

Contrbssn. *f*

Alt. Sax. 1. *f*

Alt. Sax. 2. *f*

Ten. Sax. *f*

Bar. Sax. *f*

Trpt. 1. *f*

Trpt. 2. *f*

Trpt. 3. *f*

Hn. 1. 2. *f*

Hn. 3. 4. *f*

Ten. Trbn. 1. *f*

Ten. Trbn. 2. *f*

Bs Trbn. *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Dbl. Bs. *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. *f*

Bs. Dr./Cym. *mf*





Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar. Bssn. 2.

Contr. Clar.

Bssn. 1.

Bssn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sax. 1.

Alt. Sax. 2.

Ten. Sax.

Bar. Sax. Bssn. 1. Bssn. 2.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba.

Dbl. Bs.

Timp.

Perc.

*f* *sf* *mf*

Overture for Wind Band

Musical score for Overture for Wind Band, page 85. The score is for a large wind band and includes the following parts and dynamics:

- Picc.:** *p*
- Flt. 1:** *p*
- Flt. 2:** *p*
- Ob. 1.2:** *pp*
- Clar. 1:** *p*
- Clar. 2:** *p*
- Clar. 3:** *pp*, *stacc.*
- Clar. 4:** *pp*, *stacc.*
- Bs Clar.:** *pp*
- Contr. Clar.:** *pp*
- Bsns. 1:** *pp*, *stacc.*
- Bsns. 2:** *pp*, *stacc.*
- Contr. Bsn.:** *pp*
- Alt. Sx. 1:** *pp stacc.*
- Alt. Sx. 2:** *pp*, *stacc.*
- Ten. Sx.:** *pp*, *stacc.* (Bsns. 1.)
- Bar. Sx.:** *pp*, *stacc.* (Bsns. 2.)
- Trpt. 1-3:** *pp*
- Hn. 1.2:** *pp* 1., *stacc.*
- Hn. 3.4:** *pp* 3., *stacc.*
- Ten. Trbn. 1-2:** *pp*
- Bs Trbn.:** *pp*
- Euph.:** *pp*
- Tuba:** *pp*, *pizz.*, *pp* (Dbl. Bs.)
- Dbl. Bs.:** *pp*
- Timp.:** *pp*
- Perc.:** *pp*, Triangle

This page intentionally blank

Score for Overture for Wind Band, page 97. The score includes parts for Picc., Flt. 1, Flt. 2, Ob. 1.2, Clar. 1, Clar. 2, Clar. 3, Clar. 4, Bs Clar., Contr. Clar., Bsn. 1, Bsn. 2, Contrbssn., Alt. Sx. 1, Alt. Sx. 2, Ten. Sx., Bar. Sx., Trpt. 1, Trpt. 2, Trpt. 3, Hn. 1.2, Hn. 3.4, Ten. Trbn. 1, Ten. Trbn. 2, Bs Trbn., Euph. (Bsn. 2), Tuba, Dbl. Bs, Timp., and Perc. (Sn. Dr.). The score features dynamic markings such as *f*, *sf*, and *mp*.

Overture for Wind Band

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Contr. Clar.

Bsn. 1.

Bsn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Dbl. Bs

Timp.

Perc.

*cresc.*

*ff*

*f*

Picc. *ff*  
 Flt. 1. *ff*  
 Flt. 2. *ff*  
 Ob. 1. 2. *ff*  
 Clar. 1. *p*  
 Clar. 2. *p*  
 Clar. 3. *ff*  
 Clar. 4. *ff*  
 Bs Clar. *ff*  
 Contr. Clar. *ff*  
 Bsn. 1. *ff*  
 Bsn. 2. *ff*  
 Contr. Bsn. *ff*  
 Alt. Sax. 1. *ff*  
 Alt. Sax. 2. *ff*  
 Ten. Sax. *ff*  
 Bar. Sax. *ff*  
 Trpt. 1. *ff*  
 Trpt. 2. *ff*  
 Trpt. 3. *ff*  
 Hn. 1. 2. *ff*  
 Hn. 3. 4. *ff*  
 Ten. Trbn. 1. *ff*  
 Ten. Trbn. 2. *ff*  
 Bs Trbn. *ff*  
 Euph. *ff*  
 Tuba *ff*  
 Dbl. Bs *ff*  
 Timp. *f*  
 Perc. *f*

Overture for Wind Band

Picc. *f*

Flt. 1. *f*

Flt. 2. *f*

Ob. 1. 2. *f* 1. Solo *p* *f* 1. Solo *p* *dim.*

Clar. 1. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Clar. 2. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Clar. 3. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Clar. 4. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Bs Clar. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Cntr. Clar. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Bssn. 1. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Bssn. 2. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Cntrbssn. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Alt. Sx. 1. *f* *f* *f*

Alt. Sx. 2. *f* *f* *f*

Ten. Sx. *f* *f* *f*

Bar. Sx. *f* *f* *f* Bssn. 2 *p* *dim.*

Trpt. 1. *f* *f* *f*

Trpt. 2. *f* *f* *f*

Trpt. 3. *f* *f* *f*

Hn. 1. 2. *f* *f* *f*

Hn. 3. 4. *f* *f* *f*

Ten. Trbn. 1. *f* *f* *f*

Ten. Trbn. 2. *f* *f* *f*

Bs Trbn. *f* *f* *f*

Euph. *f* *f* *f*

Tuba *f* *f* *f*

Dbl. Bs *f* *f* *f*

Timp. *f* *f* *f*

Perc. *mf* *mf* *mf*



125

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2. (1. Solo) *pp*

Clar. 1. *pp*

Clar. 2. *pp*

Clar. 3. *pp*

Clar. 4. *pp*

Bs Clar. *pp*

Cntr. Clar. *pp*

Bssn. 1. *pp*

Bssn. 2. *pp*

Cntrbssn. *pp*

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx. *pp*

Bar. Sx. *pp*

Trpt. 1. *pp*

Trpt. 2. *pp*

Trpt. 3. *pp*

Hn. 1. 2. *pp*

Hn. 3. 4. *pp*

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn. *pp*

Euph. *pp*

Tuba (Dbl. Bs.) *pp*

Dbl. Bs. *pp*

Timp.

Perc.

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Contr. Clar.

Bsn. 1.

Bsn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Dbl. Bs.

Dbl. Bs.

Timp.

Perc.

*Perusal Score - Unlawful to Reproduce*  
*www.merlinpatterson.com*

*p*, *pp*, *dim.*

This page intentionally blank

Score for Overture for Wind Band, page 150. The score includes parts for Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboes 1 & 2, Clarinets 1, 2, 3, & 4, Bass Clarinet, Contrabass Clarinet, Bassoons 1 & 2, Contrabassoon, Alto Saxophones 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpets 1, 2, & 3, Horns 1.2 & 3.4, Tenor Trombones 1 & 2, Bass Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Double Bass, and Timpani/Percussion. The score is marked with *mp cresc.* and *ff* dynamics. A watermark for 'www.melinpatterson.com' is visible across the page.



Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Contr. Clar.

Bssn. 1.

Bssn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba.

Dbl. Bs.

Timp.

Perc.

*f*

*sf*

*mf*

Flt. 1

Bssn. 2

Contrbssn.

*f*

*sf*

*mf*

Picc. *ff* *p*

Flt. 1. *ff* *p*

Flt. 2. *ff* *p*

Ob. 1. 2. *ff* *p*

Clar. 1. *ff* *pp*

Clar. 2. *ff* *pp* *p*

Clar. 3. *ff* *pp*

Clar. 4. *ff* *pp*

Bs Clar. *ff* *pp* Bssn. 2.

Contr. Clar. *ff* *pp*

Bssn. 1. *ff* *pp*

Bssn. 2. *ff* *pp*

Contrbssn. *ff* *pp*

Alt. Sax. 1. *ff*

Alt. Sax. 2. *ff*

Ten. Sax. *ff*

Bar. Sax. *ff* *pp* Bssn.

Trpt. 1. *ff*

Trpt. 2. *ff*

Trpt. 3. *ff*

Hn. 1. 2. *ff* *pp*

Hn. 3. 4. *ff* *pp*

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2. *ff*

Bs Trbn. *ff*

Euph. *ff* *pp* Bssn. 2.

Tuba *ff*

Dbl. Bs. *ff* *pizz.* *pp*

Timp. *f*

Perc. *f* *pp* Triangle

Picc.  
Flt. 1.  
Flt. 2.  
Ob. 1. 2.  
Clar. 1.  
Clar. 2.  
Clar. 3.  
Clar. 4.  
Bs Clar.  
Cntr. Clar.  
Bsn. 1.  
Bsn. 2.  
Cntr. Bsn.  
Alt. Sx. 1.  
Alt. Sx. 2.  
Ten. Sx.  
Bar. Sx.  
Trpt. 1.  
Trpt. 2.  
Trpt. 3.  
Hn. 1. 2.  
Hn. 3. 4.  
Ten. Trbn. 1.  
Ten. Trbn. 2.  
Bs Trbn.  
Euph.  
Tuba  
Dbl. Bs  
Timp.  
Perc.



Score for Overture for Wind Band, page 180. The score is for a concert band and includes parts for Piccolo, Flute 1 and 2, Oboe 1 and 2, Clarinets 1-4 (with a unis. marking for Clarinet 3), Bass Clarinet, Contralto Clarinet, Bassoons 1 and 2, Contrabassoon, Alto Saxophones 1 and 2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpets 1, 2, and 3, Horns 1-2 and 3-4 (with a Hn. 3.4 marking for Horn 3.4), Tenor Trombones 1 and 2, Bass Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Double Bass, and Timpani/Drum set.

Key markings and dynamics include: *f*, *sf*, *cresc.*, *mf*, *pp*, and *un.* (unison).

The score is heavily watermarked with "Perusal Score - Unlawful to Reproduce" and "www.merlinpatterson.com".

This page intentionally blank

Perusal Score. Unlawful to Reproduce. www.merlinpaterson.com

Picc.  
Flt. 1.  
Flt. 2.  
Ob. 1. 2.  
Clar. 1.  
Clar. 2.  
Clar. 3.  
Clar. 4.  
Bs Clar.  
Cntr. Clar.  
Bsn. 1.  
Bsn. 2.  
Cntrbssn.  
Alt. Sx. 1.  
Alt. Sx. 2.  
Ten. Sx.  
Bar. Sx.  
Trpt. 1.  
Trpt. 2.  
Trpt. 3.  
Hn. 1. 2.  
Hn. 3. 4.  
Ten. Trbn. 1.  
Ten. Trbn. 2.  
Bs Trbn.  
Euph.  
Tuba  
Dbl. Bs  
Timp.  
Perc.

Overture for Wind Band

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Cntr. Clar.

Bsn. 1.

Bsn. 2.

Cntr Bsn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Dbl. Bs

T imp.

Perc.

*sempre ff*

*sf*

*ff*

8va ad lib.

Picc.

Flt. 1.

Flt. 2.

Ob. 1. 2.

Clar. 1.

Clar. 2.

Clar. 3.

Clar. 4.

Bs Clar.

Contr. Clar.

Bssn. 1.

Bssn. 2.

Contrbssn.

Alt. Sx. 1.

Alt. Sx. 2.

Ten. Sx.

Bar. Sx.

Trpt. 1.

Trpt. 2.

Trpt. 3.

Hn. 1. 2.

Hn. 3. 4.

Ten. Trbn. 1.

Ten. Trbn. 2.

Bs Trbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Dbl. Bs

Timp.

Perc.

Picc. *ff*

Flt. 1. *ff*

Flt. 2. *ff*

Ob. 1. 2. *ff*

Clar. 1. *ff*

Clar. 2. *ff*

Clar. 3. *ff*

Clar. 4. *ff*

Bs Clar. *ff*

Contr. Clar. *ff*

Bssn. 1. *ff*

Bssn. 2. *ff*

Contrbssn. *ff*

Alt. Sx. 1. *ff*

Alt. Sx. 2. *ff*

Ten. Sx. *ff*

Bar. Sx. *ff*

Trpt. 1. *ff*

Trpt. 2. *ff*

Trpt. 3. *ff*

Hn. 1. 2. *ff*

Hn. 3. 4. *ff*

Ten. Trbn. 1. *ff*

Ten. Trbn. 2. *ff*

Bs Trbn. *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Dbl. Bs *ff*

Timp. *ff*

Perc. *ff*