

John Philip Sousa

Nobles of the Mystic Shrine

March for Concert Band

Edited by CW4 Charles Booker
Bandmaster, U.S. Army (Retired)

INSTRUMENTATION

1-FULL SCORE	3-1st TRUMPET in Bb
1-PICCOLO	3-2nd TRUMPET in Bb
3-1st FLUTE	3-3rd TRUMPET in Bb
3-2nd FLUTE	1-1st HORN in F
1-1st OBOE	1-2nd HORN in F
1-2nd OBOE	1-3rd HORN in F
4-1st CLARINET in Bb	1-4th HORN in F
4-2nd CLARINET in Bb	2-1st TROMBONE
4-3rd CLARINET in Bb	2-2nd TROMBONE
2-BASS CLARINET in Bb	2-3rd TROMBONE
1-CONTRA ALTO CLARINET in Eb or CONTRA BASS CLARINET in Bb	3-EUPHONIUM in Treble or Bass Clef
1-1st BASSOON	4-TUBA
1-2nd BASSOON	1-STRING BASS
2-1st ALTO SAXOPHONE in Eb	1-TIMPANI (optional)
2-2nd ALTO SAXOPHONE in Eb	5-PERCUSSION: Field Drum, Bass Drum, Crash Cymbals, Triangle, Tambourine
2-TENOR SAXOPHONE in Bb	1-BELLS
1-BARITONE SAXOPHONE in Eb	1-HARP (optional - not shown on score)

Grade 3

Duration: Approx. 3 Minutes



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PROGRAM NOTES

Shriners International, also commonly known as **The Shriners** or formerly known as the **Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine** (AAONMS, anagram for A MASON), is a society established in 1870 and is headquartered in Tampa, Florida. Shriners International describes itself as a fraternity based on fun, fellowship, and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth. There are approximately 350,000 members from 196 temples (chapters) in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, Bolivia, Mexico, the Republic of Panama, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Europe, and Australia. The organization is best known for the Shriners Hospitals for Children that it administers, and the red fezzes that members wear.

John Philip Sousa became a member of the Almas Temple of the Shriners in Washington, D.C., and the Almas band promptly appointed him honorary conductor. In a photograph taken at the Shriners' national convention in 1923 he is seen wearing the traditional fez with the word ALMAS above the Shriner logo. Sousa's nephew, A. R. Varela (who sponsored his membership in the lodge) asked him to compose a march and the result was *Nobles of the Mystic Shrine*, one of Sousa's most distinctive and captivating marches. At that same Shriners convention in 1923, Sousa was called upon to lead a huge band of approximately 6200 Shriners in Griffith Stadium, the largest band that Sousa ever conducted.

At the time Sousa composed this march, the public school band movement was in its infancy. Sousa composed for adult musicians, often professional players who were little intimidated by difficult key signatures and extremes of range. The original edition of *Nobles of the Mystic Shrine* reflects this with opening key signature of five flats (B-flat minor in the introduction and first strain and D-Flat Major in the second strain) and six flats later on (G-flat Major in the trio and E-flat minor in the break-up strain). With what is considered today to be extreme ranges in the clarinets and brass, this march has long been beyond the abilities of high school bands and some community bands. With the expiration of the original copyright, Southern Music Company is now able to present this march in a handsome full-score edition which is transposed down a minor third to key signatures of two flats and three flats, with reduced ranges for the clarinets and brass. The march is not otherwise simplified in any way. The presence of exotic percussion (tambourine and triangle) is preserved and optional parts for contrabass clarinet, string bass, timpani and harp (this last not shown on the score) allow for performance by the most sophisticated of ensembles.

ABOUT THE ARRANGER

Charles Booker (b. 1952), a native of Natchez, Mississippi, is a retired U.S. Army Bandmaster, and former Associate Professor at the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith. He served the university as Director of Jazz Studies, Director of Bands, and Chair of the Music Department. During his tenure at UA Fort Smith, he taught trumpet, band, jazz band, conducting, music theory, orchestration and composition. Mr. Booker studied composition with Hank Levy (composer/arranger for Stan Kenton), Dr. Steve Strunk and Dr. James Balentine, and conducting with Dr. Robert Garofalo and Dr. Robert Rustowicz. Mr. Booker received his degrees from the University of the State of New York and the University of Texas at San Antonio. He later completed courses for Texas teacher certification in secondary music at Texas State University and holds a Texas Teaching Certificate. Mr. Booker has over 90 compositions published by Alfred, Kendor, Southern Music Company, Wingert-Jones, Potenza Music, Print Music Source, and Lecta Music. Mr. Booker's music has been performed internationally by schools, universities, community bands and professional bands and orchestras that include the Fort Smith Symphony Orchestra, The U.S. Army Band and Orchestra ("Pershing's Own"), the U.S. Army Field Band, the U.S. Military Academy Band (West Point), the U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America and the U.S. Air Force Academy Band. Mr. Booker's 21-year career in the U.S. Army included service in the Fifth Army Band in San Antonio, Texas, staff arranger for the Army Field Band, conductor of Army Bands in Louisiana, Germany, New York City, and director of the Jazz Ambassadors in Washington, D.C. Charles Booker has been recognized by the Mayor of Fort Smith (the 2006 "Mayor's Honors to the Visual and performing Arts"), the North Side Independent School District of San Antonio, Texas (the 2008 "Pillars of Character Award") and received the Arkansas Arts Council Award in music composition for 2009. In 2007, the New Mexico State University Symphonic Winds released their CD entitled **Centra-fuge: The Music of Charles L. Booker, Jr.**, and in 2008, Mr. Booker released his second CD **American Jubilee**. Booker's third CD, **Times Remembered**, was released in 2009, and his CD **Radiant Blues** was released in 2011. In 2013, Mr. Booker and fellow composer Roger Cichy released a compilation of their latest original music on their CD **Glorious Journey**. More information on Mr. Booker and his music can be found on his website, charlesbooker.com.

Mr. Booker is married to his wife of 47 years, trumpeter and quilter, Claudette [DeRocher] of San Antonio, Texas. They have three children: Major Erik Booker (U.S. Army retired) public school teacher; Dr. Adam Booker, Assistant Professor of Double Bass at Appalachian State University, and Dr. Colleen [Booker] Halverson, professor of English at Western Governors University. Mr. Booker and Claudette have nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren and make their home in San Antonio, Texas.

Nobles of the Mystic Shrine

March 5

John Philip Sousa
arranged by CW4 Charles Booker
Bandmaster, U.S. Army (Retired)

8

13

Picc.

Flutes 1 2

Oboes 1 2

Clars. 1 2 3

Bs. Cls.

CA. Cl.

Bsns. 1 2

A. Sxs. 1 2

T. Sxs.

B. Sx.

Tpts. 1 2 3

Horns 1 2 3 4

Trbns. 1 2 3

Euphs.

Tubas

St. Bs.

Timp.

Fld. Dr.

Cymb. Bs. Dr.

Trgl. Tamb.

Bells

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