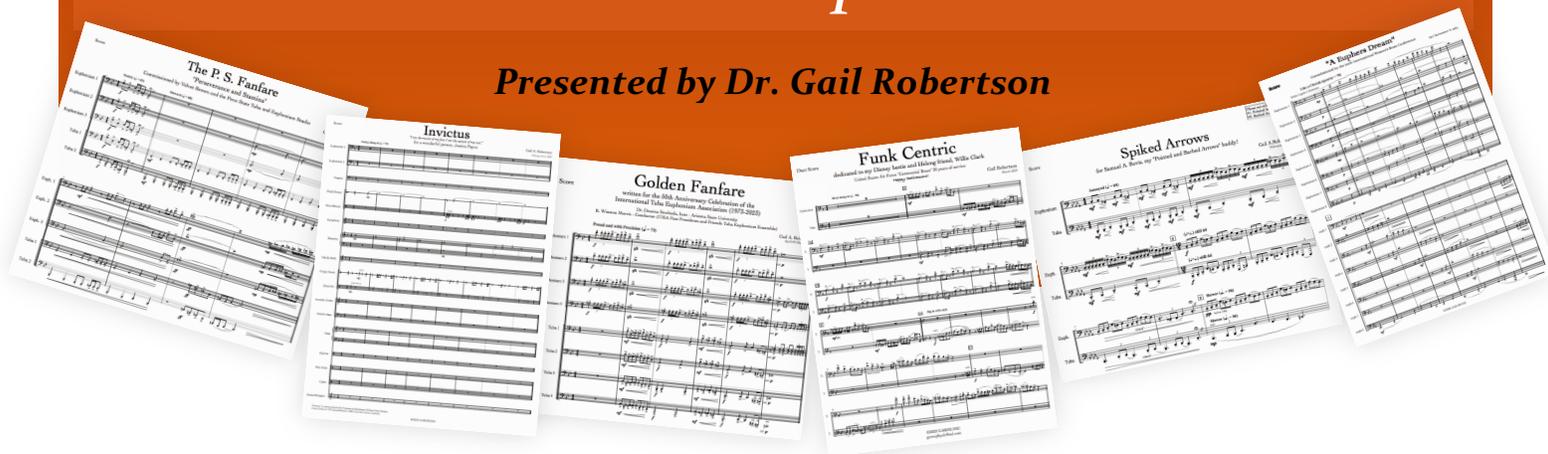


Composing and Arranging for Tuba and Euphonium

Presented by Dr. Gail Robertson



Where to Begin and How to Get Started with Arranging and Composing

Choosing your Source

- Bach, Beatles, Tina Turner, a Soundtrack, Schumann, Sousa, or Massenet?
- Originally written for full band or a chamber ensemble?

If it is your first arrangement or you are fairly new as a composer or arranger, pick something simple like a march, a patriotic song, or something you know well.

Who is Going to Play it and What is it For?

- Who is going to play it and what level of players will they be? E.g., Walt Disney's TubaFours, a young ensemble, or a large tutti-ensemble.
- How many euphonium and tubas parts will there be? (This will determine the difficulty and ranges of each part.) *Difficult and busier works are best with less parts and fewer players.*
- What is it for? E.g., Indoor concert, parade, a wedding, a party, atmosphere music, to be memorized, for your enjoyment, or possibly to be published.

The image shows a page of a musical score titled "Disney Movie Medley" by Gail A. Robertson. The score is for a brass ensemble, specifically for Euphonium 1, Euphonium 2, Tuba 1, and Tuba 2. The tempo is marked "Majestic" with a metronome marking of 114. The score includes parts for "CARMEN" and "The Bandwidth Killers". The difficulty level is indicated as "Difficult: Difficult".

Will it be Transcribed? (by ear)

- Don't transcribe if it is your FIRST arrangement. This will add tons of extra time and frustration to your project.
- If you are using a score, try to never just copy exactly from it. Be original and creative in all that you do!

The image is a screenshot of a YouTube video player. The video is titled "Star Wars - Recording sessions" by Giray Bayer. The video shows a conductor leading a large ensemble of musicians in a recording studio. The video has 424 likes and 33K views. The video player includes a search bar, a play button, and a progress bar.

Do Your Research!

- Listen to at least 2-3 recordings of various types of groups and styles.
- It may also be useful to have a score to the music regardless of whether or not you are going to transcribe it. (E.g., Helps with meters and intricate rhythms and harmonies.)

I prefer transcribing vs. using a score. I am always more creative and more Gail with my ears!

The image is a screenshot of a Google search results page for "the chordettes mr. sandman other versions". The search results show a list of recordings of the song "Mr. Sandman" by The Chordettes. The recordings include "Mr. Sandman" by Chel Atkins (1950), "Mr. Sandman" by Blind Guardian (1996), "Mr. Sandman" by Oranger (2005), "Mr. Sandman" by Joscho Stephan (1999), "Mr. Sandman" by Pomplamoose (2010), "Mr. Sandman" by Dickie Valentine (1953), "Mr. Sandman" by Linda McCartney (1970), and "Mr. Sandman" by The Puppini Sisters (2006). The search results also include a "Listen" button and a "People also search for" section.

Choosing a Key and Making a Road Map

- Don't write too low for the tubas to have a good bass line or too high for the euphoniums to outline the melody correctly.

Too high means fewer performances and less sales.

- Should you start with an intro or not? Who will get the melody when and where? Modulate keys later on? Change the groove?

Score
Under the Boardwalk
for Tuba/Euphonium Quartet or Ensemble
Difficulty: **Medium Difficult**
Art. Resnick and Kenny Young
Arranged by Gail A. Robertson
July 6, 1998
© 1999 G&A MUSIC

Should I Write By Hand or Use Software?

Software Benefits:

- A professional look
- Players can read it (vs. hand-written parts)
- Playback lets you hear it
- Faster edits (cut-and-paste)
- Easy transposing and extracting of parts, and much more!
- **Publisher Ready!**

Set a timer to auto-save your work every 5 minutes!

Music composition softwares
From sources across the web

Score
Christmas Time Is Here
for Tuba/Euphonium Quartet or Ensemble
Vince Guaraldi
for my extra special friend Willie Clark, "Happy Birthday"
Arranged by Gail A. Robertson
December 2, 1998
© 1999 G&A MUSIC

A Few Pointers

- Know the difference between a transcription and an arrangement.
- Start with writing the melody, add the bass line, and then add the inner voices last.
- Try to keep the tuba parts spaced away from each other unless you are looking for a certain color or heavy (EVIL) chords. An octave or more is always safe.
- You may have the euphoniums closer due to the tessitura. Especially in the upper register.

Tuba parts being TOO CLOSE is the number one problem with MOST tuba/euphonium works!
Strive for CLARITY by hearing individual parts.

- Don't write the euphonium parts **too high**. This may limit performances, sales, or your work may suffer from missed notes or octaves being taken down an octave. YIKES!!!

- Give the tuba the **melody**.
- The 1st tuba should have the **counter melody** and not just off beats. Treat it like the euphonium's role in the wind band.
- Don't just give the 1st tuba octaves with the 2nd tuba. Playing in octaves is a handy color tool, but not ALL of the time. *I like to save it for special times. It adds POWER!*
- Make all of your parts **interesting** unless you have a certain age or ability in mind that requires some parts to be more basic than others.
- Play each part to make sure it has good **voice-leading** and no awkward skips or bad phrases. *Be careful with cut-and-paste!*

Score
WITHOUT A SONG
for Tuba / Euphonium Quartet or Ensemble
Dedicated to my Grandmother, "Mamom"
Vincent Youmans
arr. by Gail Robertson

Andante
Euphonium 1
Euphonium 2
Tuba 1
Tuba 2

with great expression

1996 GAIL MUSIC

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a tuba/euphonium quartet or ensemble. The title is 'WITHOUT A SONG' by Vincent Youmans, arranged by Gail Robertson. It is dedicated to the arranger's grandmother, 'Mamom'. The score is in 4/4 time and marked 'Andante'. It features four parts: Euphonium 1, Euphonium 2, Tuba 1, and Tuba 2. The Euphonium parts are written in the upper register, while the Tuba parts are in the lower register. The score includes dynamic markings such as 'p' (piano) and 'mp' (mezzo-piano), and performance instructions like 'with great expression' and 'rall. e dim.'. The score is published by Gail Music in 1996.

Score
The Time of Your Life
From "A Bug's Life"
for Tuba / Euphonium Quartet or Ensemble (Featuring Pat Glynn, Tuba)
Arranged by Gail A. Robertson
Difficulty: Medium Easy

Medium swing, 108
Gail
Euphonium 1
Carmen
Euphonium 2
Willie
Tuba 1
Pat
Tuba 2

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a tuba/euphonium quartet or ensemble. The title is 'The Time of Your Life' from the movie 'A Bug's Life', arranged by Gail A. Robertson. It is a medium swing piece at 108 bpm. The score is in 4/4 time and marked 'Medium Easy'. It features four parts: Gail (Euphonium 1), Carmen (Euphonium 2), Willie (Tuba 1), and Pat (Tuba 2). The Euphonium parts are written in the upper register, while the Tuba parts are in the lower register. The score includes dynamic markings such as 'f' (forte) and 'mp' (mezzo-piano), and performance instructions like 'solo' and 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The score is published by Gail Music.

Score

Salut d'Amour

for the Interservice Tuba / Euphonium Quartet

E. Elgar, Op. 12

Arranged by Gail Robertson

Andantino

Euphonium 1 *mp* *p* below tuba 1

Euphonium 2 *mp* *p* below tuba 1

Tuba 1 *mp* *p* Solo

Tuba 2 *mp* *p*

E 1 *ritard* *ten.*

E 2 *ritard* *ten.*

T 1 *ritard* *ten.*

T 2 *ritard* *ten.*

Making a Busy Line Work

What makes this a challenge:

- Knowing how to score a busy line and not let it sound “broken” when it is shared amongst multiple parts.
- Deciding how and where to let your players breathe.

Solutions:

- Divide the difficult passage across several parts and build in your phrases.
- Pick a pattern and stick with it!

Lakme (flower duet)
 arranged for "Inception" (Shirah Hill, Angie Hunter, Shay Baker, and Velvet Brown)
 Premiered at the 2003 International Women's Brass Conference
 Composed by Luc Duflocq
 Arranged by Gail Robertson

Allargato moderato (un poco animato)

Score for Euphonium 1, Euphonium 2, Tuba 1, and Tuba 2. The score shows a complex, fast-paced melody that is shared between the instruments. The tempo is marked 'Allargato moderato (un poco animato)'. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp* and *ritard.*

Putting it All Together

How to make your works more interesting:

See next page for *You'll Be in My Heart*

- Give others (if not everyone) the melody. (1st euph #5) (2nd euph #21) (1st tuba #2)
- Provide a **groove** that CHANGES. (Both tubas #21 compared to #29)
- Create counter-lines and pass them around. (1st euph #21 and 1st tuba #22) (1st euph #29 and 1st tuba #30)
- Be consistent with accents and player instructions. (tubas at the beginning)
- Keep your bass line interesting and vary it to keep your listener's attention! (2nd tuba #21-24 vs. #29-32)
- Modulate keys to fancy it up. (#21)
- Create your own unique intro and endings and have fun!

Parade of the Slave Children Difficulty: Very Difficult
 from "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom"
 John Williams
 For Tuba/Euphonium Quartet or Ensemble
 Arranged by Gail Robertson

Score

Score for Euphonium 1, Euphonium 2, Tuba 1, and Tuba 2. The score is marked 'Score' and 'Difficulty: Very Difficult'. It features a complex, fast-paced melody. The tempo is marked 'mp'. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *mf*, and *sol*. The score is arranged for Tuba/Euphonium Quartet or Ensemble.

Difficulty: Medium

Score

You'll Be in My Heart

from "Tarzan"

Words and Music by Phil Collins

Arranged by Gail A. Robertson

for my Grand Aunt Elinor Johnson

July 27, 1999

for Tuba / Euphonium Quartet or Ensemble

Moderately

The musical score is written for four parts: Euphonium 1, Euphonium 2, Tuba 1, and Tuba 2. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Moderately'. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 6. In measure 5, Euphonium 1 has a 'solo' marking and a box containing the number '5'. Euphonium 2 has a 'below tuba 1' marking in measure 1 and a 'below euph 1' marking in measure 6. Tuba 1 has a 'solo' marking in measure 2. The second system contains measures 7 through 12. Euphonium 1 has a 'solo' marking in measure 7. Euphonium 2 has a 'below euph 1' marking in measure 12. Tuba 1 has a 'solo' marking in measure 7. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamics markings like *mf* and *mp*.

You'll Be in My Heart

13

E1
mf

E2
mf

T1
mf

T2
mf

below euph 2

21

E1
mf

E2
solo

T1
mf

T2
mf

Composition Samples – Works with Fixed Media (Play-a-long tracks)

Score

Funk Centric

dedicated to my Disney bestie and lifelong friend, Willie Clark
United States Air Force "Ceremonial Brass" 20 years of service
Happy Retirement!

Gail Robertson
March 2023

New along at (4 - 96)

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gareuphyak@aol.com

"Bestie" - the closest friend a person has and someone you know well and regard with affection and trust.

Score

Funkomatic Slam

Commissioned by Deanna Swoboda, the queen of fun!!!

Gail A. Robertson
February 24 - March 12, 2022

Moderate Funk (♩ = 100)

©2022 GAR MUSIC

Duet Score

Funk Centric

dedicated to my Disney bestie and lifelong friend, Willie Clark
United States Air Force "Ceremonial Brass" 20 years of service
Happy Retirement!

Gail Robertson
March 2023

Start along at (4 - 96)

©2023 GARMUSIC
gareuphyak@aol.com

Score

Funkomatic Slam

Commissioned by Deanna Swoboda, the queen of fun!!!
for Tuba and Euphonium and Fixed Media

Gail A. Robertson
February 24 - March 12, 2022

Moderate Funk (♩ = 100)

©2022 GAR MUSIC

Score

Invictus

"I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."
for a wonderful person, Jessica Payne

Gail A. Robertson
February 5, 19, 2022

Going along at $\text{♩} = 70$

©2021 GARMUSIC

"Invictus" is a short poem by the Victorian era British poet William Ernest Henley. It was written in 1875 and published in 1899 in his first volume of poems.

©2021 GARMUSIC

Score

West Coast Groove

for Thomas Jansson, a wonderful musician!

Gail A. Robertson
January 21, 2021

Moderate Groove at $\text{♩} = 100$

©2021 GARMUSIC

Score

West Coast Groove

for Thomas Jansson, a wonderful musician!

Gail A. Robertson
January 21, 2021

Moderate Groove at $\text{♩} = 100$

©2021 GARMUSIC

Duet Score

Invictus

"I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."
for a wonderful person, Jessica Payne

Gail A. Robertson
February 5, 11, 12, 2022

Going along at $\text{♩} = 70$

©2021 GARMUSIC

"Invictus" is a short poem by the Victorian era British poet William Ernest Henley. It was written in 1875 and published in 1899 in his first volume of poems.

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Score

Passage

for Matthew Holbrook (my last Florida student)

Gail Robertson
February 17, 2023

Moderate $\text{♩} = 90$

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Composition Samples - Works For Larger Ensembles

Score

"A Euphers Dream"

Commissioned by the 2006 International Women's Brass Conference
Gail Robertson b. 1975

Molto Legato e Solennità
Like a Chorale (quarter = 78)

Score for 8 Euphonium parts (Euphonium 1 through Euphonium 8). The score is in 3/4 time and features a melodic line for each part, often with sustained notes and dynamic markings such as *mp* and *f*. The piece is titled "Like a Chorale (quarter = 78)".

©2006 GAR MUSIC

Score

Another Eupher's Dream

For Dr. Brian L. Bowman and the 2019 Armed Forces Euphonium Ensemble
Gail A. Robertson
©2019 GAR MUSIC

Steady paced in the distance (2 = 80)

Score for 8 Euphonium parts (Euphonium 1 through Euphonium 8). The score is in 2/4 time and features a steady, rhythmic accompaniment for each part. The piece is titled "Steady paced in the distance (2 = 80)".

©2019 GAR MUSIC

Score

Golden Fanfare

written for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the
International Tuba Euphonium Association (1973-2023)
Dr. Deanna Swoboda, host - Arizona State University
R. Winston Morris - Conductor (TEA Past Presidents and Friends Tuba Euphonium Ensemble)
Gail A. Robertson
April 29-May 5, 2023

Proud and with Precision (2 = 73)

Score for Tuba and Euphonium ensemble (Euphonium 1 through Euphonium 4, Tuba 1 through Tuba 4). The score is in 2/4 time and features a fanfare-like melody for each part. The piece is titled "Proud and with Precision (2 = 73)".

Score

Okto Flourish

for the Brass Band of Battle Creek
Baritone, Euphonium, and Tuba Sections
Premiered at the 2014 I.T.E.C. - Bloomington, Indiana - hosted by Daniel Perantoni
Gail A. Robertson
April 3, 2014

Dark and moody (2 = 65) *Allegro (2 = 120)*

Score for Brass Band (Baritone 1 (Gail), Baritone 2 (Demondrac), Euphonium 1 (Steve), Euphonium 2 (Ben), Tuba 1 (Mary), Tuba 2 (Lea), Tuba 3 (Dave), Tuba 4 (Phil)). The score is in 2/4 time and features a variety of rhythmic patterns and dynamics. The piece is titled "Dark and moody (2 = 65)" and "Allegro (2 = 120)".

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Score

Resolute Fanfare

for the Barley Brass
Gail Robertson
March 1, 2011

Steady, but energetic (2 = 80)

Score for Barley Brass (Trumpet in Bb 1, Trumpet in Bb 2, Trumpet in Bb 3, Trumpet in Bb 4, Horn in F 1, Horn in F 2, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Bass Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Eb Tpt. 1, Eb Tpt. 2, Eb Tpt. 3, Eb Tpt. 4, Hrn. 1, Hrn. 2, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, B. Tbn., Euph., Tuba). The score is in 2/4 time and features a fanfare-like melody for each part. The piece is titled "Steady, but energetic (2 = 80)".

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Composition Samples - Solo Works and Duets

Rock Hopper

Solo Tuba

Commissioned by Gretchen Renshaw James,
Nancy and Craig Wood Oboist, Associate Professor of Music - Hendrix College

Gail Robertson
May 4, 2022

Stretching à la Gabrielli (♩ = c. 72-80)
freely

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I'm an Ocean...

Solo Euphonium

for Travis Scott, "a reason to always smile"

Gail Robertson (b. 1965)

January 22, 2019
May 5, 2019
July 2, 2019
December 26, 2019

Tranquil, yet stirring (♩ = 60)
ritard.

©2020 GAR MUSIC

Code Cracker

Duration 4:00

Solo Tuba

for Greg Lindstrom, a "techie tubist" and wonderful person

Gail A. Robertson

(12/9/02, 3/26, 4/14, and 4/25/05)

Allegro (♩ = 120)
Got the assignment!

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www.garmusic.us@aol.com

Pointed Arrows

Score

for Samuel A. Revis, a wonderful student and human being

Gail Robertson

October 26, 2020

Moderately Forward (♩ = 108)

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Score

Spiked Arrows

for Samuel A. Revis, my "Pointed and Barbed Arrows" buddy!

Please see other Arrows Dances #1, Pointed Arrows and #2, Barbed Arrows

Gail A. Robertson February 22, 2002

Arrived ($\text{♩} = 64$)

Euphonium

Tuba

Euph.

Tuba

Euph.

Tuba

Euph.

Tuba

Euph.

Tuba

©2002 GAR MUSIC

Score

Duo Conversion

Written for Matt Blymyer and Ben Bulak

Gail A. Robertson March 6, 2014

Moderato with force! ($\text{♩} = 120$)

Tuba 1 (Matt)

Tuba 2 (Ben)

1

2

1

2

13

17

21

©2014 GAR MUSIC www.GailRobertson.com

Duet Score

A Way Forward

for Matthew and Jacob Waymon

Gail Robertson July 12, 2002 July 27, 2002

Playful at ($\text{♩} = 92$)

Tuba 1 (Matthew)

Tuba 2 (Jacob)

11

12

9

11

12

13

15

17

19

21

22

©2002 GAR MUSIC

Score

Allegro et Andantango

for two Tubas

written for Nathan Giroux and Ross Kerley

Gail A. Robertson February 19, 2010

Allegro ($\text{♩} = c. 120$)

Tuba 1

Tuba 2

1

2

1

2

11

15

Andantango ($\text{♩} = c. 90$)

1

2

1

2

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**Composition Samples -
Works For Larger Ensembles
(Tuba-Euph Ensemble to British Brass Band)**

Score

Persistence Fanfare and March
composed for the 2021 ITEA (VTEC) Virtual Tuba Euphonium Ensemble (and optional percussion)
The amazing thing is that even when we feel trapped, there's this song that starts to come out and there's something in our spirits that still wants to sing" - Barbara 304

Gail A. Robertson
March 5-7, 2021

Version 3.01

Moderato (♩ = 102)

"Persistence Fanfare and March" - a return to music and friendship. (Gail Robertson) ©2021 GAR MUSIC

Score

Persistence Fanfare and March
adapted for the Brass Band of Battle Creek "2021 Midwest Clinic Performance"
dedicated to William G. Wells and his nephews, Jim and Bill Gray

Gail A. Robertson

Moderato (♩ = 102)

"Persistence Fanfare and March" - a return to music and friendship. (Gail Robertson) ©2021 GAR MUSIC