Last Voyage of Queen Anne's Revenge

Ryan Meeboer

The *Queen Anne's Revenge* was the final ship sailed by Edward Thatch, also known as the pirate, Blackbeard. Recently, there have been some archaeological expeditions to find the remains of the sunken ship, all of which is somewhat reflected by this piece.

To give the "pirate-like" feeling to the music, it has been composed in 6/8 time, as have many pieces about pirates. It opens with a scale pattern to give the listener the feeling of being on the rough seas sailed by pirates. The introduction is to be intense to draw the listener into the music.

The main body of the piece is made up of AABA form, passing the melody between parts and growing more intense in dynamics, articulation, and rhythmical figures throughout. Countermelodies are also introduced later in the form to add to the intensity.

The middle of the piece is a slow moving, chorale-like section in 4/4 time, which is used to represent the demise of the ship and its crew. It is to be played as legato as possible by all players to create the somber emotion.

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Ryan Meeboer is a music educator who obtained his degree through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. As a composer, he has written and arranged many pieces for students in concert and jazz bands, and has also composed and arranged pieces for small university combos. As a performer, he has had experience in several groups, including concert and stage bands, chamber choir, vocal jazz ensemble, pop groups, acoustic duets, and the Hamilton based swing group, The Main Swing Connection.

Ryan Meeboer began studying music at the age of seven through private guitar lessons. During his years in elementary and secondary school, Ryan gained experience in several families of instruments. Focusing on music education and theory (including composition and orchestration), he attended McMaster University to achieve his honours degree in music.

Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.

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