

for Frank

My Song Of Hope

Clarinet & Piano

Andrew Robertson Mackereth

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EMR 92049: Clarinet & Concert Band

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Andrew Robertson Mackereth



Andrew Mackereth was born in Gateshead, in the North-East of England in 1965. A fourth generation Salvationist, he first attended a meeting aged barely a week old. The son of officer parents, he has lived in many places including 4 years in Zambia and nine years in Kingston-upon-Hull. It was here that he began his earliest musical training.

In 1982, he returned to his native North-East to enrol on the Certificate in Brass Band Studies Course at Newcastle College of Arts & Technology, studying trombone, euphonium and tuba. In 1984, Andrew gained a place at the Birmingham School of Music to study Trombone and Composition, later studying Percussion and Conducting also. In his fourth year, he won the Bernhard Brown Memorial Composition Prize. At the completion of his studies, he entered the teaching profession first in Nuneaton before moving to Birmingham to become Head of Music in the largest UK school.

His first publication was the song "Ring the Bells of Heaven" in 1987, but it was 1996 before his first piece for brass band entered the repertoire. To date, more than 500 of his compositions; religious and secular are in print; many frequently feature on the concert programmes of Salvation Army Bands. In November of 2008 he was honoured by the New York Staff Band with a concert of his music entitled Profile 30. Andrew has led music programmes in Argentina, America, Germany and Netherlands and guest conducts brass bands in Germany and Sweden.

Numerous commissions include STANDARD BEARERS for the International Staff Band of The Salvation Army, HYMNUS for Wilhelmina Easterein (Netherlands) and EXALTATION for the Melbourne Staff Band. Other notable collaborations include North York Temple Band, Canadian Staff Band, Amsterdam Staff Band and Songsters. His bass trombone solo: Swing Low has been recorded by the renowned Bass Trombonist: Douglas Yeo and Tubist: Leslie Neish.

In addition to numerous guest conducting appearances, Andrew is the Bandmaster of the Nuneaton Salvation Army Band, The Salvation Army Symphonic Wind Ensemble and The Glebe Symphonic Wind Orchestra.


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My Song Of Hope

Andrew Robertson Mackereth
2025

This instrumental solo was written for my friend and trumpet soloist, Frank Stubbs.
The melody is entirely original and simple in presentation, and whilst struggling to find a suitable title had time to write a simple poem that seems to encapsulate what I'm trying to say through the piece.

My Song of Hope

*My heart is often full,
And I'm weighted down.
I look in helplessness, at all around.
A world of suffering, no place for peace.
The broken promises, and no release.*

*Who can sing through days of darkened skies and fear?
Where, a voice that dares to rise when none can hear?
To say:
Be strong, to carry on.
And sing with confidence;
A song of hope.*

*With hands so often full, Arms wide open.
My spirit will not die,
Desire subside.
Alone, I dare to stand against the storm.
My pride and dignity, again reborn.*

*I will sing through storms that darken skies with fear,
Mine, a voice that dares to rise when none can hear.
I will be strong,
I'll carry on.
I'll sing with confidence;
My song of hope.*

Andrew R. Mackereth
July 2025



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for Frank

My Song Of Hope

Andrew Robertson Mackereth

Warmly ♩ = 64

B♭ Clarinet

Piano

The musical score is written for B♭ Clarinet and Piano in 4/4 time, with a tempo of ♩ = 64. The key signature has two flats (B♭ and E♭). The score is divided into three systems, each with a measure number (5, 10, 15) at the beginning of the first staff.

System 1 (Measures 1-4): The B♭ Clarinet part begins with a whole rest. The Piano part starts with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, *mp*, and *mf*. A crescendo and decrescendo hairpin are used.

System 2 (Measures 5-9): The B♭ Clarinet part enters in measure 5 with a melody marked *mp*. The Piano part continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and chords in the left hand. A section labeled **A** is indicated above the staff. Dynamics include *mp* and *8va* (octave up).

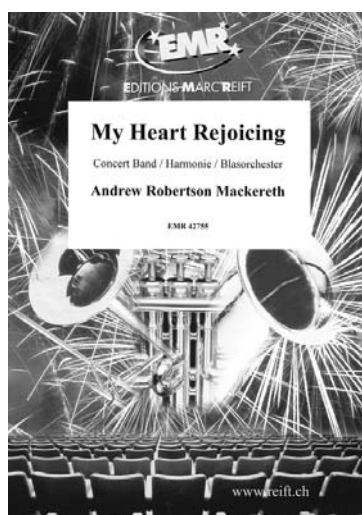
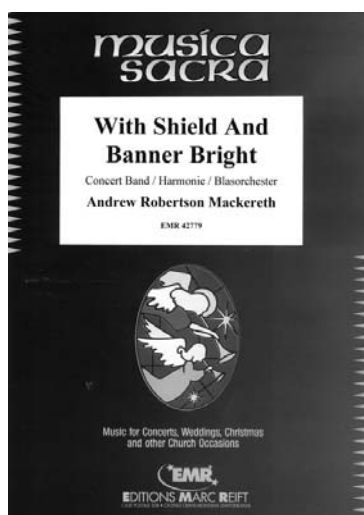
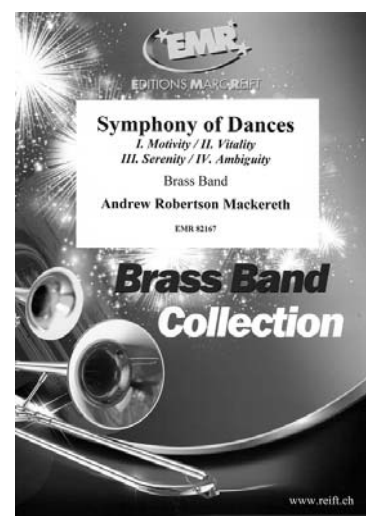
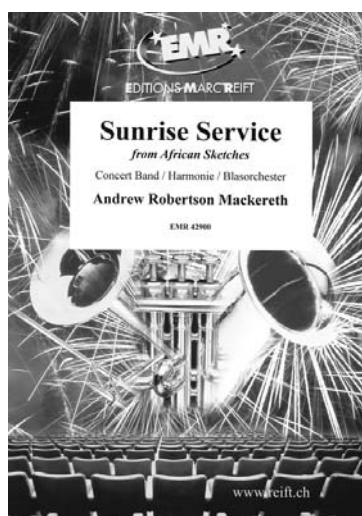
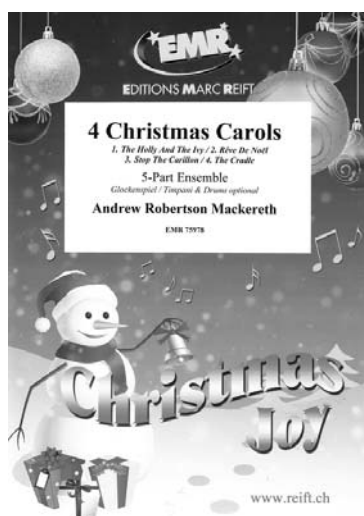
System 3 (Measures 10-14): The B♭ Clarinet part continues its melody. The Piano part maintains the accompaniment. A section labeled **B** is indicated above the staff. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*.

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