

HEART OF THE HERO

STEPHEN MELILLO
COMPOSER

Local Heroes of Bataan Happy to Be Home



Happy to be back at home in Roswell are the four heroes of Bataan, above. Left to right they are: 1st Lt. James W. Chaney, Cpl. Simon R. Hernandez, S/Sgt. Lowell W. Hill, T/Sgt. Craville B. Brookshier, Jr. all liberated from prison camps in Japan. They returned home here first of the week. S/Sgt. Francis Davidson, and Cpl. James N. Ridgeway, also former Jap prisoners, reached home a week earlier, but were not available when the above picture was taken.



STEPHEN MELILLO, COMPOSER
STORMWORLD.COM

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Dear Conductor... Thank you for believing in, and investing in the body of work called **STORMWORKS**. Once you’ve tasted the possibilities and experienced the reactions from your students and audiences, a large body of interrelated work awaits you. If you’ve invested in the whole package or Suite... **Bravo**. It was the best way to go. The **STORMSite** at **www.stormworld.com** provides up-to-date info on all that is happening with **STORMWORKS®**. Thanks so much for championing this Music and Godspeed in the journeys ahead.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

One wouldn’t think of buying software without having the appropriate hardware. With this same common-sense thinking, conductors rendering “Storm” Works should be properly equipped.

In the **Band of the 3rd Millennium**, the orchestration employed in the body of work called **Stormworks**, we find the standard wind and percussion ensemble augmented by the use of 2 synthesizers. A seemingly innocent leap, it is replete with functionality. The generic sounds ascribed to the synthesizers are: **PAD Bass**, (*sometimes Piano and/or Chorus*) and **Harp**. Comments about the types of sounds and manner of interpreting the varied notation may be found in the *Brief Intro to the Music of Stephen Melillo... with FAQs* residing on the **STORMSite at stormworld.com**.

In 1980, the cost for such an undertaking was significant. Now, for a cost-effective, multi-useful investment, your program can be readily equipped. Of course, this is only if you are completely **un**-equipped right now! Most music programs will have at least one student who owns a synthesizer, or at least knows someone who does. In the early 1980s, I was able to recruit a great number of students simply by suggesting that there was a place for them in the “*electronics*” section! I invite you, *now with Music that calls for it*, to be champions of a wider and fuller Music Education.

On the **STORMWORKS CDs**, you will hear how these sounds, placed in a stereo field around the band... *as in the diagram on the seating chart page*... enhances the overtone hierarchy and resonance of the band while remaining somewhat “*traditional*” in its orchestral usage. Two speakers, lying flat on the floor, should be placed so that the sound is directed back into the ensemble.

As we approach all of the new tomorrows, students need to play Music, that while serving the cause and purpose of Music Education, excites them... Music which sonically *competes* with the inundation of supremely produced sounds they hear in their every day lives.

A vast variety of interrelated and graduated pieces as well as accompanying Teaching Tools await you.

Now, as always, it’s up to you. Only *you* can be the guide your students need, and only *you* can deliver this Music to that limitless realm we refer to as Music. To that Quest, noble and honorable, Godspeed!

Stephen Melillo, Composer



A brief explanation of a fascinating History.

The artwork to the left was created in 1998. The title of the suite was a play on the words, “**Arabian Nights**” Until 2003 the suite called “**American Knights**”. That title has since been changed to “*A Wish to the World*”.

While the old artwork alone is striking and eerily foreboding given its creation date, the intent of the Music is even *more* so.

Before 11 September 2001, there was a notion that “*heroes were a thing of the past*”. This Suite was offered as a counter theme. I wanted to let student Musicians know that there *were* Heroes... all around us all of the time. Indeed, I could have written an almost infinite number of pieces about a great many people throughout Geography and Time.

Then, on **11 September 2001**, the idea of Heroism was revisited. The original intent of “**American Knights**”, from the Music to its artwork became an **all-too-close-to-reality** foretelling. When one looks at the same artwork *after* 11 September 2001, it takes on a meaning beyond the intentions of the Music. Our friends across the world, who have grown rapidly, and who take the English language quite literally, have helped to inspire this new title.

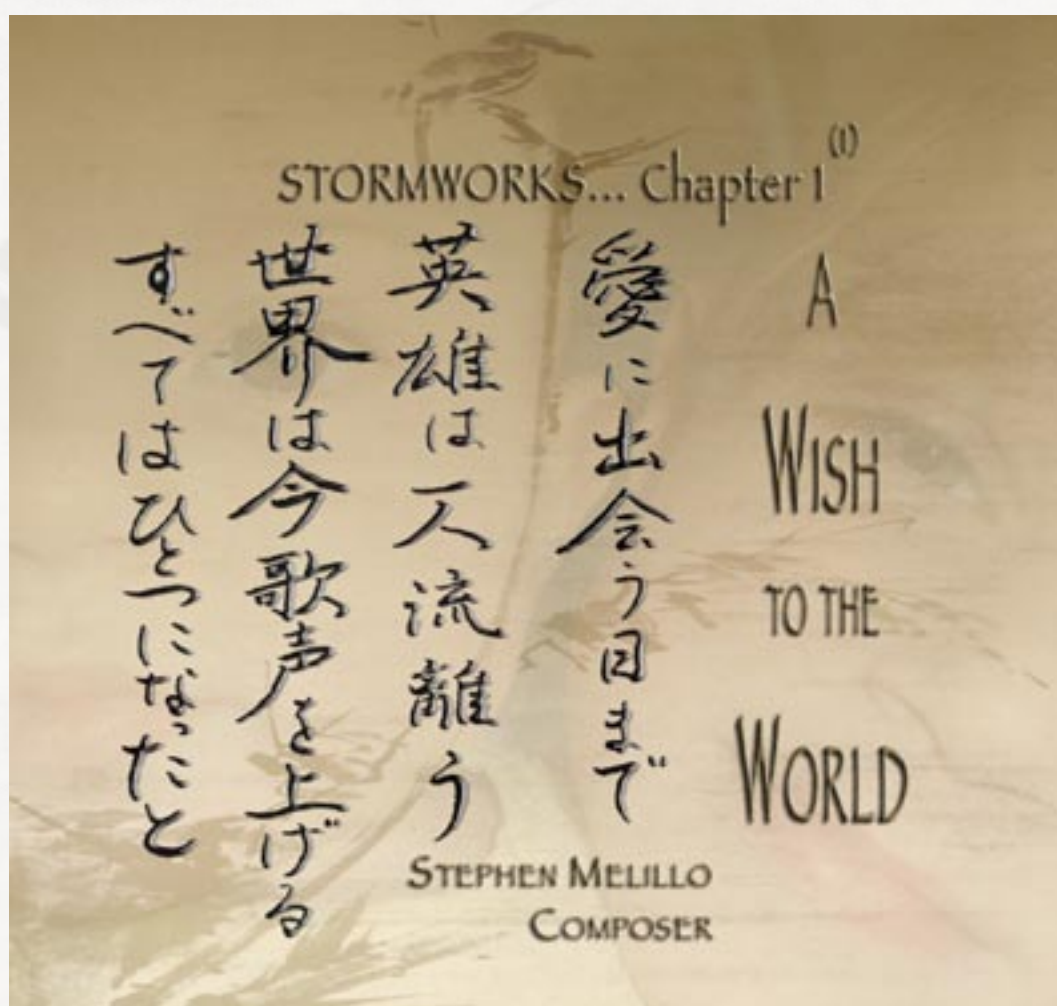
In an effort to applaud the Heroism for which this Music was originally and purposefully composed, the suite finds its new title, “**A Wish to the World.**” The wish? That all of us once again embrace those Heroes alive and sacrificed, the Souls of Heroes from all over the World and vastly different Times, who have embodied self-sacrifice, Kindness and Love.

The new artwork comes from the piece, **MUSASHI**. This work is about a great Hero to the Japanese people. Musashi had become a master of the Sword, only to give it up for the cause of Art and the pursuit of Poetry and Love.

Here is the translation of the Chinese Poet text from **Musashi**, written in the form of a Shinto Prayer Song. In this we find the Spirit with which “**A Wish to the World**” is humbly offered.

Godspeed!

Alone the Hero walks
Until Love finds him
The World sings now
For all is one



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HEART OF THE HERO

#864, A Concertino in F for Piano and Wind Ensemble at 4:00
by © Stephen Melillo IGNA 31 March 1999 ... 2nd & 3rd Millennium

Commissioned by Barry Wentz
and
The Alpena High School Symphony Band

Dedicated to those parents, family and friends,
who in the noble support and promotion of school Music programs throughout this country and the
world,
inspire the next generation of Heroes... by being Heroes themselves.

TECHNICAL

I wanted to compose a piece which could serve an otherwise unsung hero in the Music program while providing an equal opportunity for a potential guest artist. The Band parts are essentially in the Grade 3-4 range. Options to transpose certain passages by an octave may even make it attainable to a Grade 3 Band. The work is a Concertino for Piano and Wind Ensemble which also fits into the story-line of the "*A Wish to the World*" Suite.

The pianist will move from a youthful, Mozart-like pianistic quality to that of a more dramatic and Romantic quality, often within the span of just a few measures. The differences between measure 3, and then measure 6, for instance quickly depict this shifting of mood. The piece is bookended by the innocent Mozart-like Theme. The "**Heart**" of the piece depicts the clash of adversity with the valour of undaunted assertion.

Between meters, it is the pulse which remains constant. The piece feels correct at mm=132. It can be slightly faster dependent upon the pianist.

Dependent upon the abilities of the Band, octave adjustments may be utilized for the 1st Trumpet and the 1st Horn.

With regard to accenting the syncopations... in this case the **2's** against the **3's** of **12/8**, please consult the **BRIEF INTRO!**

I believe that the role of the piano is such that it should either be amplified, or at least strategically positioned so as to allow its voice to be heard and felt in as close to a Concerto environment as possible.

MUSICAL

Across the suite *American Knights*, also called, "*A Wish to the World*" we have paid tribute to unsung heroes, described situations a hero must face, and told a story about the not-too-distant past... and future.

In *Heart of the Hero*, we discover that quiet and relentless song, that quality of Spirit that is forever held in the Heart of such an individual. Innocent, perhaps humorous, the Hero faces adversity often... but in the Hero's heart, a courageous theme plays without bound. The Hero prevails.

Heart of the Hero is but one part of "*A Wish to the World*", a series of pieces written to inspire the next generation of Heroes... and "*A Wish to the World*" is but one part of a personal mission called **STORMWORKS**. Within its musical boundary of 4:00, thematic ideas connect it to many of its other parts, wherein lies the greater, single message. That message is for you to discover and enjoy! Thank you so much for championing this and *all* STORM works... and for helping to inspire the next generation of Heroes.

Godspeed.
Sincerely,



Delicately...

1 mm=132

2

4

5

6

7

Piano Solo

Flute 1

Flute 2

Oboe

Eng Horn

Bassoon

Clarinet 1

Clarinet 2

Clarinet 3

Bass Clar

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor

Bari Sax

Horn 1

Horn 2

Horn 3

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Eupho

Tbone 1

Tbone 2

Bass Tbone

Tuba

PAD Bass

Timpani

Chimes

Orch Bells

Xylophone

Bell of Ride Cymbal

Tambourine

Conga

Piccolo Snare Drum

Suspended Cymbal

Crash Cymbal

Bass Drum

Large Tam