

OFFBEAT PUBLISHING

Island of the Setting Sun

Wind Band (grade 4)

By
Richard Rock

Winds:

1 Piccolo	2 Alto Saxophone Eb	1 Trombone 1
1 Flute	1 Tenor Saxophone Bb	1 Trombone 2
1 Oboe	1 Baritone Saxophone Eb	1 Trombone 3 (bass trom)
1 Bassoon	1 Trumpet 1 Bb	1 Euphonium
1 Clarinet 1 Bb	1 Trumpet 2 Bb	1 Tuba
1 Clarinet 2 Bb	1 Trumpet 3 Bb	
1 Clarinet 3 Bb	2 Horn 1&2 F	
1 Bass Clarinet Bb	2 Horn 3&4 F	

Percussion (4 players):

Timpani

Percussion 1 (Side Drum, Cymbal, Tenor Drum)

Percussion 2 (Bass Drum, Cymbal)

Percussion 3 mallets(Xylophone, Tam Tam, Cymbal, Glockenspiel)

Composer's Note

Various cultures speak of a land shrouded in mystery and power. Avalon from Arthurian legend, Atlantis from tales of Plato, Hesperides from the legend of Greek Nymphs and Tír na nÓg ("Land of Eternal Youth") from Irish folklore.

Ireland's ancient past is remembered in its many myths and legends, each imbued with heroism, romance and mysticism.

The Lebor Gabala, the "Book of Invasions", gives account of many mythical events, mainly the seven invasions of Ireland. In this ancient text is the story of the Milesian conquest of Ireland. This band of brothers, sons of the Spanish king Mil, came to Ireland to take it from the ruling god kings, the Tuatha Dé Danann. But the invasion was to become an epic battle. The Tuatha Dé Danann raised a great tempest, destroying some of the Milesian fleet, and killing one of the brothers, Colpa, who is said to be buried near the Boyne estuary.

After some struggle, the Milesians succeeded in overcoming the tempest, and made for shore. Their leader, Amergin Glúngeal, was the first to put foot on the shore, and made a now famous chant, which included the following lines:

Who but I knows the place where the sun sets?
Who but I knows the ages of the moon?
What land is better than this island of the setting sun?

Apt words for an island in a far corner of the earth, the last land in the west before the mighty and vast Atlantic Ocean, a land on the extremity of Europe from where the sun sets into the ocean.

After their defeat, the Tuatha Dé Danann are said to have retreated into the fairy mounds of Ireland, awaiting some future day when they will come thronging out once again to bring Ireland to glory.

Amergin is said in local folklore to be buried under the mound at Millmount, Drogheda, which is located in the home town of the composer, Richard Rock.

Written by Anthony Murphy, Co Author of "Island of the Setting Sun", Insearch of Ireland's Ancient Astronomers.

www.mythicalireland.com

The piece in its simplest form is in ternary (fast, slow, fast) form. This piece has a lot of movement with sixteenth notes throughout the band promoting adventure of the invading Greeks crossing the seas to reach Ireland through rough seas with wild waves and battles on a heroic theme that passes through the band alongside a light dance motif on the woodwinds from the opening to letter G.

Ireland is suggested from letter G with an introduction to a folk theme from the oboe and gentle harmony underneath. This builds to a climax at letter J and then subsides like an island wave before the reprieve of the heroic figure of the invaders.

The piece draws on three main styles. The heroic sections using a heroic motif interrupted by a light dance theme and the middle slower section which suggests a traditional Irish score.

The student is introduced to sixteenth notes, changing styles, suspensions, tensions, various articulations and an alternating rhythmic meter.



Island of the Setting Sun

RICHARD ROCK

Allegro marcato

This musical score is for the piece "Island of the Setting Sun" by Richard Rock, marked "Allegro marcato". It is a full orchestral score with the following instruments and parts:

- Piccolo**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Flute**: Rapid sixteenth-note passages with dynamic markings *f*.
- Oboe**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Bassoon**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Clarinet in B♭ 1**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Clarinet in B♭ 2**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f*.
- Clarinet in B♭ 3**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f*.
- Bass Clarinet**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f*.
- Alto Saxophone**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Tenor Saxophone**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Baritone Saxophone**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Trumpet in B♭ 1**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Trumpet in B♭ 2**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Trumpet in B♭ 3**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Horn in F 1**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Horn in F 2**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Horn in F 3**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Trombone 1**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Trombone 2**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Bass Trombone**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Euphonium**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Tuba**: Melodic line with dynamic markings *f*.
- Timpani**: Rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f*.
- Percussion 1**: Includes Snare Drum (SD), Cymbal (CYM), and Tom-toms (toms) with dynamic markings *f* and *fp*.
- Percussion 2**: Includes Bass Drum (BD) with dynamic markings *f* and *p*.
- Percussion 3**: Includes Tam Tam with dynamic markings *f*.

A

6

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

ppp

light

marc

marc

marc

marc

B

13

Picc. -

Fl. - marc
mf

Ob. -

Bsn. -

Cl. 1 - marc
mf

Cl. 2 - p marc
mf

Cl. 3 - p marc
mf

B. Cl. - mp

A. Sax. -

T. Sax. - mp

B. Sax. -

Tpt. 1 - st. mute marc
mf

Tpt. 2 - st. mute marc
mf

Tpt. 3 - mf

Hn. 1 - mp
mf

Hn. 2 - mf

Hn. 3 - mf

Tbn. 1 - mp

Tbn. 2 - mp

B. Tbn. - mp

Euph. -

Tba. - mp

Timp. -

Perc. 1 -

Perc. 2 -

Perc. 3 - XYLO marc
mf