An Analytical and Educational Survey of the Sacred Harp by David Liptak

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Abstract
This thesis will explore analytical and educational domains of The Sacred Harp by David Liptak. Influenced by the history and compositional techniques of shape note singing, the composition is a tribute to the past and current Sacred Harp singing conventions nationwide and the exuberance expressed within the shape note tradition. The structure and unique style of The Sacred Harp will be examined within the history of shape note singing. Part I of this thesis addresses the history of the Sacred Harp tune book and the shape note singing schools; Part II is a formal analysis of the composition and Part III presents an educational teaching unit.

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Buy Sacred Harp by LIPTAK, D at jwpepper.com. Concert Band Sheet Music. David Liptak chose a route to writing this composition that has been most widely recognized and acclaimed by Aaron Copland in his various settings of Americana such as Appalachian Spring, Rodeo and Billy the Kid. Liptak took, as his source of inspiration, the tune "Wondrous Love," a hymn chosen from the well-known shaped-note collection, The Sacred Harp. Shaped-note singing was both vigorous and unrestrained, primarily using song with open fourths and fifths, and based in a particular key or mode. Liptak's compositional use of this earlier material has created a work with origin...