



Obsession

Mvt. 1 From The
“Frankenstein Suite”

Based on Mary Shelley’s
Classic Novel

Jim DePriest

Frankenstein Suite

Mvt. 1 - OBSESSION

"Curiosity and a desire to learn the hidden laws of nature are among the earliest sensations I can remember. I, Victor Frankenstein, will pioneer a new way, explore unknown powers and unfold to the world the deepest mysteries of creation."

"This is my obsession!"

The "*Frankenstein Suite*" was written originally for marching band. Reimagined for concert band at a grade 2 to 2+ level, it consists of three separate movements: Obsession, The Creator and RAGE. It is based on the writing of the Mary Shelley gothic novel Frankenstein. Narrated from the perspective of an Arctic ship's captain relating a story told to him after finding a dying Victor Frankenstein, Shelley's personal life experiences influenced the ideas within Frankenstein: including themes of loss, guilt, and the consequences of defying nature.

Movement 1 - *Obsession* - Victor Frankenstein becomes obsessed with the idea of reanimation. Despite all ethical concerns he forges ahead to create a human in his own image using the corpses he digs up at night. The chimes at the beginning of the movement hint of the late hour when everything is taking place. The movement ends with Frankenstein working in his lab as he screams "ALIVE!"

Movement 2 - *The Creator* - Even though Victor Frankenstein is "The Creator", this movement deals with the creature's search for love and acceptance from Frankenstein. The movement starts with a beautiful theme, but as Frankenstein begins to understand what he has created, he looks down at the creature with horror and disgust as the music turns dark.

Movement 3 - *RAGE* - The creature unable to find love and acceptance, chooses fear and retribution as an alternative. The movement opens with a chaotic section of full winds and percussion but eventually the theme from movement 2 returns. The creature finds his creator, who has died on an Arctic ship while in search of his creation. The captain asks the creature, "Why do you weep for this man?" "He was my father" says the creature. The suite ends as it began, with a bell tolling the late hour as a warning against trying to play God.

Jim DePriest retired in 2023 after 40 years as a high school instrumental music instructor the last 31 years at Mt Pleasant High School in Mt Pleasant, Iowa. He received his BME from Iowa Wesleyan College and his Masters of Fine Arts from Southern Oregon State University as part of the American Band College. During his tenure, his marching bands, jazz bands and concert bands made many appearances including multiple appearances at the Iowa Jazz Championships, marching band competitions throughout the midwest as well as performances at four Bands Of America Competitions. For the past 23 years, he has written both original and arranged pieces for marching band, concert band, jazz band and showchoir. Jim has had the pleasure of working with his wife, Marlene, the former high school choir director at Mt Pleasant and was honored to arrange for the Mt. Pleasant show choir, INMOTION. Jim is now a full-time composer/arranger and has written for many bands and choirs in the Midwest. He and his wife Marlene have four children Colin, Kyle, Caitlyn and Callie who are all actively involved in teaching and the arts.

In Honor of the 200th Anniversary of the Mary Shelley Novel "Frankenstein"

Obsession

Mvt. 1 from the "Frankenstein Suite"

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1 Adagio $\text{♩} = 90$

The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following instruments and parts:

- Piccolo
- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet in Bb 1
- Clarinet in Bb 2
- Bass Clarinet
- Bassoon
- Alto Sax 1
- Alto Sax 2
- Tenor Sax
- Baritone Sax
- Trumpet in Bb 1
- Trumpet in Bb 2
- Trumpet in Bb 3
- Horn in F 1
- Horn in F 2
- Trombone 1
- Trombone 2
- Baritone (B.C.)
- Tuba
- Double Bass
- Timpani
- Snarcline
- Bass Drum
- Crash Cymbal
- Suspended Cymbal
- China Cymbal
- Large Gong
- Triangle
- Chimes
- Bells
- Xylophone
- Vibraphone
- Marimbu
- Organ
- Opt. Electric Guitar
- Rehearsal Piano
- (Opt.) Sound FX

The score is in 4/4 time and begins with a first-measure rest. The tempo is Adagio at 90 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The woodwinds and strings play a melodic line starting in the second measure, while the brass and percussion provide harmonic support. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings like *mp*.

Obsession, Pg. 4

12 $\text{♩} = 120$

This page of a musical score, titled "Obsession, Pg. 4", features a tempo of 120 beats per minute. The score is arranged for a large ensemble of instruments. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb 1, Clarinet in Bb 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, and two Saxophones (Alto and Tenor). The brass section consists of three Trumpets in Bb, two Horns in F, two Trombones, Baritone, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Cymbals (Crash, Suspended, and China), Gong, Triangle, Chimes, Bells, Xylophone, Vibraphone, and Maracas. Keyboard instruments include Organ and Electric Guitar. The score is marked with dynamic instructions such as *mf cresc.*, *f*, and *mf*, indicating a general upward dynamic trend. The organ part is specifically marked with "Pipe Organ Patch". The score is divided into measures, with a double bar line indicating a section change at measure 12.

Obsession, Pg. 5

18

Allegro ♩ = c. 155
(M.M.)

This page of a musical score, titled "Obsession, Pg. 5", is marked with the number "18" in a box. The tempo is "Allegro" with a metronome marking of ♩ = c. 155, and the performance instruction "(M.M.)" is noted below. The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Picc.
- Fl.
- Ob.
- Cl. in Bb 1
- Cl. in Bb 2
- B. Cl.
- Bsn.
- A. Sx. 1
- A. Sx. 2
- T. Sx.
- B. Sx.
- Tpt. in Bb 1
- Tpt. in Bb 2
- Tpt. in Bb 3
- Hn. in F 1
- Hn. in F 2
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2
- Bar.
- Tuba
- D.B.
- Timp.
- S. Dr.
- B. Dr.
- Cr. Cym.
- Ch. Cym.
- L. G.
- Tri. (with a "Bon." marking)
- Chm.
- Bls.
- Xyl.
- Vib.
- Mrb.
- Org.
- E. Gr.
- Pno.
- FX

The score is written in 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic throughout. The percussion section includes a snare drum (S. Dr.) with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, a bass drum (B. Dr.) with a pattern of quarter notes, and various cymbals (Cr. Cym., Ch. Cym., L. G.). The woodwinds and brasses play sustained notes and chords, often with slurs. The strings play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The piano part features a complex texture with chords and moving lines. The overall mood is intense and dramatic.

This page of a musical score, titled "Obsession, Pg. 6", contains 26 measures of music. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument. The instruments listed on the left side of the page are: Picc., Fl., Ob., Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2, B. Cl., Bsn., A. Sx. 1, A. Sx. 2, T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. in Bb 1, Tpt. in Bb 2, Tpt. in Bb 3, Hn. in F 1, Hn. in F 2, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Bar., Tuba, D.B., Timp., S. Dr., B. Dr., Cr. Cym., Sus. Cym., Ch. Cym., Hon. 1, Hon. 2, Tri., Chm., Bls., Xyl., Vib., Mrb., Org., E. Gtr., Pno., and FX. The score begins at measure 23 and ends at measure 26. A double bar line is placed at the end of measure 25, with a box containing the number "26" above it. The music is written in a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The dynamics are marked as *mp* (mezzo-piano) starting from measure 25. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and articulation marks.

Obsession, Pg. 7

This page of a musical score, titled "Obsession, Pg. 7", contains 34 measures of music. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with multiple staves for each instrument. The instruments listed on the left side of the page are: Picc., Fl., Ob., Cl. in Bb 1, Cl. in Bb 2, B. Cl., Bsn., A. Sx. 1, A. Sx. 2, T. Sx., B. Sx., Tpt. in Bb 1, Tpt. in Bb 2, Tpt. in Bb 3, Hn. in F 1, Hn. in F 2, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, Bar., Tuba, D.B., Timp., S. Dr., B. Dr., Cr. Cym., Ch. Cym., L. G., Bon. 1, Bon. 2, Chm., Bls., Xyl., Vib., Mrb., Org., E. Gtr., Pno., and FX. The score begins at measure 30, indicated by a "30" in a box above the Piccolo staff. A rehearsal mark "34" is placed above the Flute staff at the start of the fourth measure. The music features a variety of dynamics, including *cresc.* (crescendo) and *f* (forte). The Piccolo and Flute parts have a *tr* (trill) marking. The woodwinds and strings show a general upward dynamic trend. The percussion section includes a complex rhythmic pattern in the Snare Drum and Cymbals. The Piano part features a steady accompaniment in the right hand and a more active line in the left hand. The Electric Guitar and FX parts are mostly silent, with some FX activity at the end of the piece.

37 40

This musical score, titled "Obsession, Pg. 8", is written for a large ensemble. The score begins at measure 37 and includes a rehearsal mark at measure 40. The instruments are arranged as follows:

- Woodwinds:** Piccolo (Picc.), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in Bb 1, Clarinet in Bb 2, Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophone 1 (A. Sx. 1), Alto Saxophone 2 (A. Sx. 2), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.), Horn in F 1, Horn in F 2, Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2), Baritone (Bar.), Tuba, Double Bass (D.B.), and Tympani (Timp.).
- String and Percussion Section:** Snare Drum (S. Dr.), Bass Drum (B. Dr.), Cymbals (Cr. Cym., Ch. Cym.), Gong (L. G.), Bongos (Bon. 1, Bon. 2), Chimes (Chm.), Bells (Bls.), Xylophone (Xyl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Maracas (Mrb.), Organ (Org.), Electric Guitar (E. Gtr.), Piano (Pno.), and FX.

The score features various musical notations including dynamics (e.g., *f*, *ff*, *p*, *mp*, *fff*), articulation (accents), and phrasing. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 4/4 and then to 3/4. The key signature is Bb major.

Obsession, Pg. 9

This musical score is for the piece "Obsession, Pg. 9". It is written for a large ensemble of instruments. The score is organized into systems, with each instrument or group of instruments having its own staff. The instruments included are:

- Picc.
- Fl.
- Ob.
- Cl. in Bb 1
- Cl. in Bb 2
- B. Cl.
- Bsn.
- A. Sax. 1
- A. Sax. 2
- T. Sax.
- B. Sax.
- Tpt. in Bb 1
- Tpt. in Bb 2
- Tpt. in Bb 3
- Hn. in F 1
- Hn. in F 2
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2
- Bar.
- Tuba
- D.B.
- Timp.
- S. Dr.
- B. Dr.
- Cr. Cym.
- Bon. 1
- Bon. 2
- Chm.
- Bls.
- Xyl.
- Vib.
- Mrb.
- Org.
- E. Gtr.
- Pno.
- FX

The score begins at measure 44. The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Many parts include a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking. The percussion section includes a snare drum with a *cresc.* marking, a bass drum, cymbals (including a suspended cymbal, *Sus. Cym.*), and bongos. The woodwind and brass sections have melodic lines, while the strings (represented by the Pno. and E. Gtr. parts) provide harmonic support. The score concludes at measure 50.

52

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Cl. in Bb 1
Cl. in Bb 2
B. Cl.
Bsn.
A. Sax. 1
A. Sax. 2
T. Sax.
B. Sax.
Tpt. in Bb 1
Tpt. in Bb 2
Tpt. in Bb 3
Hn. in F 1
Hn. in F 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Bar.
Tuba
D.B.
Timp.
S. Dr.
B. Dr.
Cr. Cym.
Sus. Cym.
Ch. Cym.
L. G.
Bon. 1
Bon. 2
Chm.
Bls.
Xyl.
Vib.
Mrb.
Org.
E. Gr.
Pno.
FX