

MICHAEL MARKOWSKI





INSTRUMENTATION

Piccolo
Flute 1 & 2
Oboe
Bb Clarinet 1 - 3
Bb Bass Clarinet 1 & 2
Bb Contrabass Clarinet
Bassoon 1 & 2

Eb Alto Saxophone 1 & 2 Bb Tenor Saxophone Eb Baritone Saxophone

> Bb Trumpets 1 - 3 F Horns 1 - 2 Trombone 1 - 3 Bass Trombone Euphonium Tuba String Bass

Timpani, air horn

Percussion 1: xylophone, glockenspiel, wood blocks (high and low)

Percussion 2: triangle, vibraphone, tam-tam, Mahler hammer

Percussion 3: crash cymbal, flexatone

Percussion 4: snare drum, brake drum, stuff*

Percussion 5: bass drum, triangle, stuff*

*Percussionists 4 and 5 are asked to find various items to dump on the stage floor that "bounce, rattle, or crash." For example, one might use ping-pong balls, old car hub-caps, etc.

DURATION

4:00



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ABOUT FAMISHIUS FANTASTICUS

2012 marked the 100th birthday of the late and great *Looney Tunes* director, Chuck Jones. His work—and the work of his colleagues, Tex Avery, Bob Clampett, Friz Freleng, to name a few—has helped shape my personality for as far back as I can remember. When I was first asked to write a piece that "captured the energy of the students," I couldn't help but think that Wile E. Coyote was the man (or animal) for the job. The title, *Famishius Fantasticus*, is a direct allusion to the faux binomial (the scientific Latin name) of Wile E. Coyote, as shown in the opening freeze-frame of the 1956 *Looney Tunes* cartoon, *There They Go-Go-Go!* If this was *actually* Latin (and again, it is totally made up), one would probably pronounce it *fah-ME-see-oos fahn-tahs-TEE-coos*, which might roughly translate into something like, "Fantastically Famished" or "Fantastically Hungry."

Many composers of the *Looney Tunes* era have defined the cartoon music genre, perhaps most notably Carl Stalling (with the help of Raymond Scott's extensive Warner Brothers catalogue) and MGM's Scott Bradley. *Famishius Fantasticus* is not an attempt to rewrite these masters, but rather to take the techniques that make these scores so exciting—colorful and period orchestration, extended performance techniques, exotic percussion and sound effects, constantly shifting musical textures—and draw my own composition for the wind band medium. Of course, without the animated accompaniment, the visual gags are best left to our imaginations.

Above all else, *Famishius Fantasticus* is intended to be a wild concert-closer, a "That's *not* all, folks!" encore, an existential cat-and-mouse (or coyote-and-roadrunner) chase, and is dedicated to all my friends and colleagues who vehemently go after their dreams, who never give up, and who continue to try new things no matter how many crazy ideas might blow up in their faces.

Michael Markowski November 25, 2012 Astoria, New York

WORLD PREMIERE

The Dakota High School Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Risa Hsu, premiered *Famishius Fantasticus* on December 12, 2012 in Macomb, Michigan.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

MICHAEL MARKOWSKI (b. 1986) is fully qualified to watch movies and cartoons. Although he holds a B.A. in Film, his music is actively performed around the world. His work can also be heard in short films like *Conan: The Musical,* which aired in a bit on NBC's *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, in oddball techno/pop songs, one of which featured Canadian actor John Dunsworth from *Trailer Park Boys* fame, in the independent stage musical *From Gumm to Garland: Judy the Musical,* which starred Disney Legend Paige O'Hara, in short jingles, various muzak, and comedic songs for the Phoenix-based sketch comedy troupe, *Bully Mammoth,* and also in the sci-fi comedic web series, *Voyage Trekkers.* Markowski is a member of ASCAP and currently lives in Astoria, New York. For more information, recordings, and other helpful resources, please visit www.michaelmarkowski.com.

Commissioned by the Dakota High School Wind Ensemble
Risa Hsu, director

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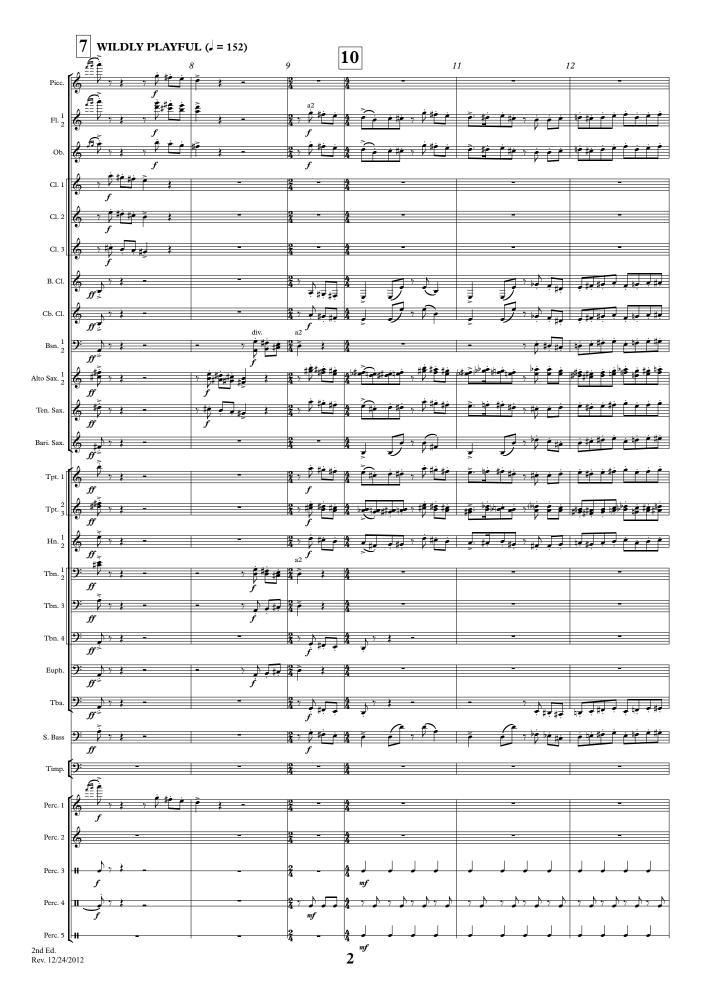
FAMISHIUS FANTASTICUS

FOR WIND ENSEMBLE



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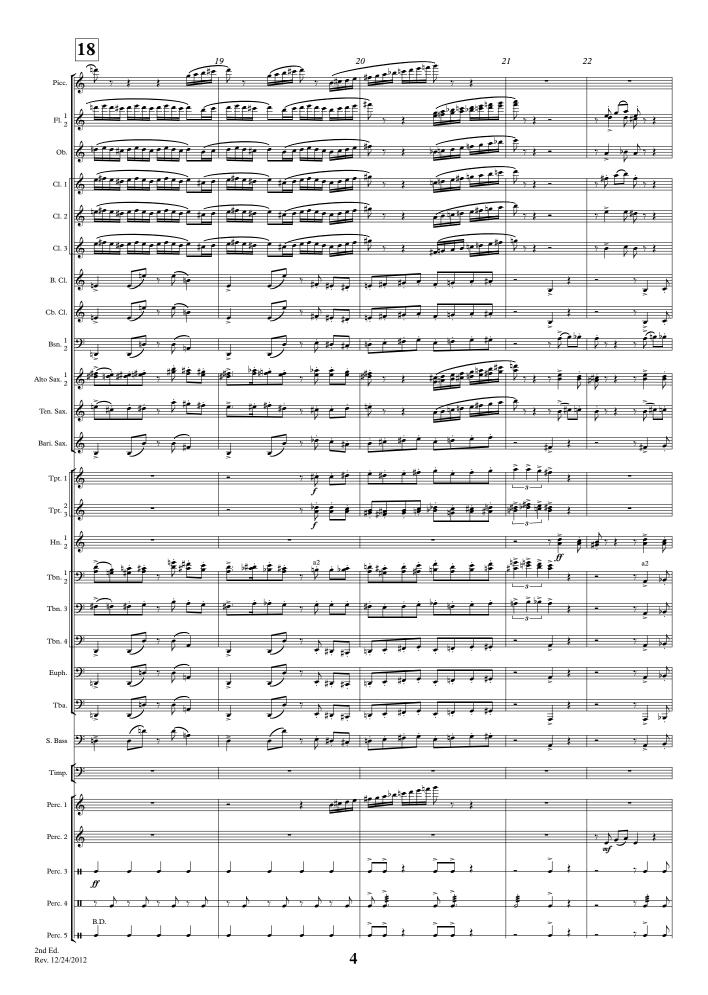
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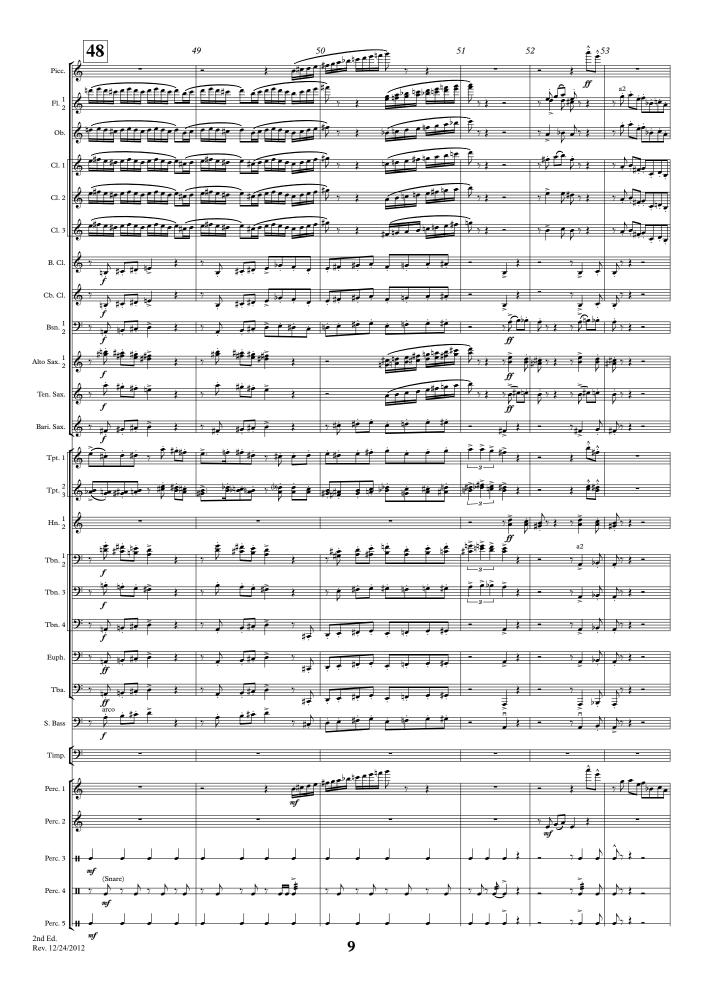






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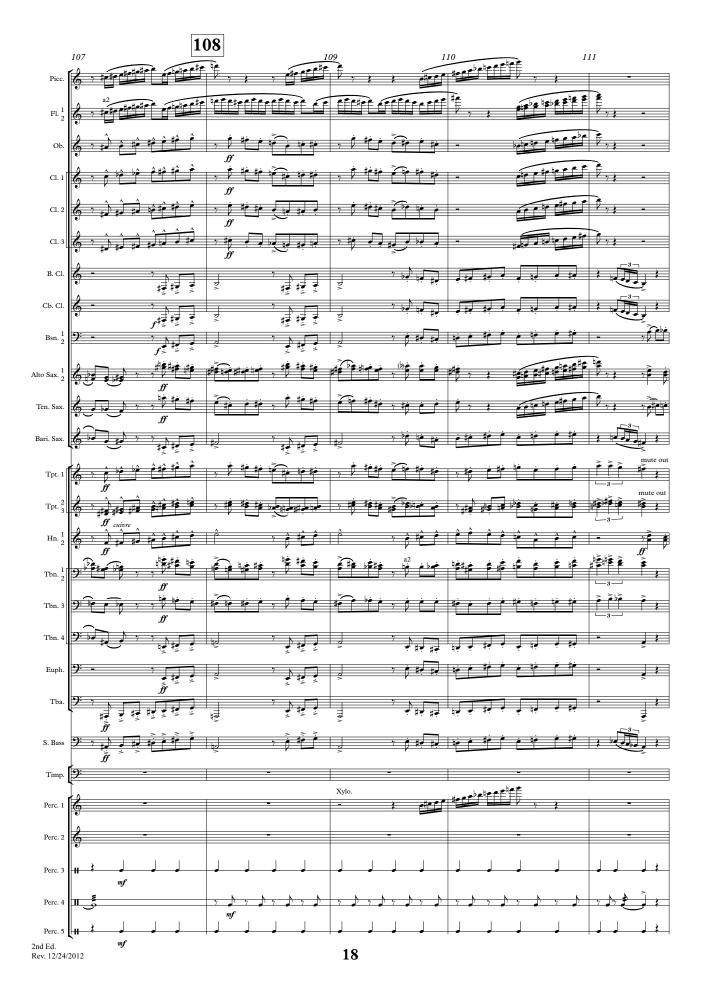




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