REMEMBER
THE MOLECULES
FOR WIND ENSEMBLE

MICHAEL MARKOWSKI
INSTRUMENTATION

Piccolo
Flute 1 - 4
Oboe
Bassoon 1 & 2
Contrabassoon

Eb Clarinet
Bb Clarinet 1 - 4
Bb Bass Clarinet 1 & 2
Bb Contrabass Clarinet

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

Bb Trumpets 1 - 4
F Horns 1 - 4
Trombone 1 - 3
Bass Trombone
Euphonium
Tuba
String Bass

Piano
Harp

Timpani
Percussion 1: glockenspiel
Percussion 2: vibraphone, trash cymbal
Percussion 3: marimba, china cymbal
Percussion 4: chimes
Percussion 5: handbells, slapstick, triangle, ride cymbal, tam-tam
Percussion 6: handbells, bass drum, tam-tam (shared), ride cymbal
Percussion 7: kick drum, three (3) concert toms, snare drum, splash cymbal, suspended cymbal, sizzle cymbal

DURATION
ca. 6:00

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WWW.MICHAELMARKOWSKI.COM
Remember The Molecules borrows its title and much of its musical imagery from Norman Maclean’s novella, A River Runs Through It—a book that continues to move me in new ways each time I read it. If you’re not familiar with the story or the 1992 movie adaptation directed by Robert Redford starring a young Brad Pitt, the scene is this: Montana fly-fishing country, deep in a canyon next to one of the strongest rivers in Montana, the Big Blackfoot River.

The piece is probably my most organic composition for wind band. I say “organic” because the piece is “through-composed,” which generally means that it was written without any traditional form or musical structure. The piece also doesn’t really have a traditional melody. So what ends up taking the spotlight are the smaller musical ideas. These little motifs, energized with rhythm, combine and entangle themselves, “one rhythm superimposed upon another” to form a larger musical architecture (Maclean 22).

Like many great works of art, Maclean’s novella is about more than just fly fishing. As a semi-autobiographical narrative, Maclean’s own family and his personal relationships with them are woven into the book’s subtext. At the heart of the music sprouts a single motivic seed composed of three notes, A♭-B♭-G. When sounded, these pitches imply two significant intervals that appear throughout the piece: a Major second (A♭-B♭) and a Major seventh (A♭-G). These two intervals are both the closest and one of the furthest removed within a diatonic octave. This juxtaposition of neighboring pitches and distant ones suggests a kind of intervallic duality, which is intended to echo an ever-present theme throughout Maclean’s story, that “it is those we live with and love and should know who elude us” (104).

Michael Markowski
February 28, 2013
Astoria, New York

World Premiere
The Kennesaw State University Wind Ensemble, under the direction of David Thomas Kehler, premiered Remember The Molecules on February 14, 2013 in Kennesaw, Georgia.

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, Baby 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.
My father was very sure about certain matters pertaining to the universe. To him, all good things—trout as well as eternal salvation—come by grace and grace comes by art and art does not come easy.

Norman Maclean

*A River Runs Through It*
REMEMBER THE MOLECULES

For Mom and Dad

Commissioned by a Consortium of University partners led by the Kennesaw State University Wind Ensemble, David Kohler, conductor.

MICHAEL MARKOWSKI

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For more information, please visit www.michaelmarkowski.com

SAMPLE SCORE - NOT FOR PERFORMANCE - NOT A PURCHASED COPY
Bari. Sax.
Cb. Cl.
Perc. 7
Perc. 6
Perc. 5
Perc. 4
Perc. 3
Picc.
Tba.
Fl. 4
Fl. 3
Fl. 1
b
Hp.
1Bsn.
2
3Tbn.
4
3Cl.
4
1Alto Sax.
2
3Tpt.
4

Handbells
(puzzle)

(sample score - not for performance - not a purchased copy)