

Spine of the Devil March

(El Espinazo del Diablo)

Waymon O. Bullock

Complete Band Instrumentation

1 - Full Score	4 - Alto Saxophones 1 & 2	4 - Trombones 3 & 4
1 - Piccolo	2 - Tenor Saxophone	2 - Euphonium B.C.
7 - Flute	1 - Baritone Saxophone	2 - Euphonium T.C.
2 - Oboe	4 - Trumpets 1 & 2	4 - Tuba
2 - Bassoon	4 - Trumpets 3 & 4	1 - Bells
5 - Clarinets in B ^b 1 & 2	2 - Horns in F 1 & 2	2 - Snare Drum, Bass Drum
7 - Clarinets in B ^b 3 & 4	2 - Horns in F 3 & 4	1 - Timpani (opt.)
2 - Bass Clarinet	4 - Trombones 1 & 2	1 - Cymbals

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About the Music - - -

Mr. Bullock has a particular fondness for the quickstep march as a form. This march, “The Spine of the Devil,” was written in 2000, and is evocative of the great marches written to showcase the power and color of the modern concert band. The original Spanish title “Espinazo del Diablo” is translated to “The Spine of the Devil” and draws inspiration from a visit by the Bullock family to one of Texas’ most scenic drives known locally as the ‘Devil’s Backbone’. Officially F.M. 32, the ‘Devil’s Backbone’ is a winding razor-backed ridge overlooking Hill Country vistas. It extends from F.M. 12 just south of Wimberly and west some 24 miles to near Blanco.

The march, in easy band keys (Bb/Eb) and in standard march form, starts with a strong G minor chord followed by an octave-long chromatic scale and musical features that set the stage for the winding, twisting, musical road that follows. It features a strong low brass lead in the first strain with woodwind flourishes and a second strain full of low brass scales followed by high brass / woodwind “fun to play” embellishments. After the standard key change at the trio, the woodwinds and French horns state a very plaintive melody in the low register, which is followed by a soaring euphonium counter-melody in its second exposition. After the break strain, which is reminiscent of the introduction, the march concludes with all forces displaying the energy and vitality associated with the march.

About the Composer - - -



Waymon Bullock was born in Lufkin, Texas on May 27, 1936. He spent 29 years as a band director in Texas public schools. Mr. Bullock served as President of the Texas Bandmasters Association and is a member of Phi Beta Mu Honorary Bandmasters Fraternity. He was honored in 2002 as the “Bandmaster of the Year” for the State of Texas. Mr. Bullock’s scoring for band is influenced by his tenure in public schools and his additional work as a clinician and an adjudicator for bands of all ages and classifications.

Spine of the Devil

March

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The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with 21 staves. The instruments are listed on the left side of each staff. The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo) and articulation marks like accents and slurs. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Opt. Timpani (G-A-D-Eb), and Cymbals (LR and ck). The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets in Bb 1-2, Clarinets in Bb 3-4, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophones 1-2, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpets in Bb 1-2, Trumpets in Bb 3-4, Horns in F 1-2, Horns in F 3-4, Trombones 1-2, Trombones 3-4, Euphonium, and Tuba. The score is written in a key signature of two flats and a common time signature.

7 9

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Bb Cl. 1-2

Bb Cl. 3-4

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1-2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Bb Tpt. 1-2

Bb Tpt. 3-4

Hn. 1-2

Hn. 3-4

Tbn. 1-2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tba.

Bells

S.D.
B.D.

Opt. Timp

7 ck

Cym.

f

1st time only

f

12

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Bb Cl. 1-2

Bb Cl. 3-4

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1-2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

12

Bb Tpt. 1-2

Bb Tpt. 3-4

Hn. 1-2

Hn. 3-4

Tbn. 1-2

Tbn. 3-4

Euph.

Tba.

12

Bells

S.D.
B.D.

Opt. Timp

12

Cym.