All Around the Circle
(I’se the B’y)

Bill Thomas

Instrumentation:

- Piccolo - 1
- Flute 1 - 4
- Flute 2 - 4
- Oboe - 2
- Bb Clarinet 1 - 4
- Bb Clarinet 2 - 4
- Bb Clarinet 3 - 4
- Bb Bass Clarinet - 1
- Bassoon - 2
- Eb Alto Saxophone 1 - 2
- Eb Alto Saxophone 2 - 2
- Bb Tenor Saxophone - 1
- Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1
- Bb Trumpet 1 - 2
- Bb Trumpet 2 - 2
- Bb Trumpet 3 - 2
- F Horn 1 - 2
- F Horn 2 - 2
- Trombone 1 - 2
- Trombone 2 - 2
- Trombone 3 - 2
- Baritone Bass Clef - 1
- Baritone Treble Clef - 1
- Tuba - 4
- String Bass - 1
- Bells - 1
- Xylophone - 1
- Timpani - 1
- Snare Drum, Bass Drum - 1
- Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals - 1
- Tom-Toms - 1
This piece is based on the Newfoundland folk song “I’se the B’y” (I’m the Boy). All Around the Circle was composed to introduce students to quartal harmonies, which are constructed using intervals of the fourth rather than the far more common tertian harmonies that are comprised of major, and minor thirds. These unique harmonies give this work a fresh, exciting sound.

The title of the piece comes from the lyrics of the second verse of the song:

“Hip your partner Sally Thibeau
Hip your partner Sally Brown
Fogo, Twillingate, Morton's Harbour
All around the circle”

Bill Thomas taught music for twenty-three years at the elementary and high school levels in the York Region District School Board spending most of that time as the head of the music department at Markham District High School. He is a former Drum Corps International adjudicator and he has been an arranger for over forty marching bands and drum & bugle corps in Canada and the United States. Bill is currently an Assistant Professor of Music and the conductor of the Wind Symphony at York University in Toronto.

Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.

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