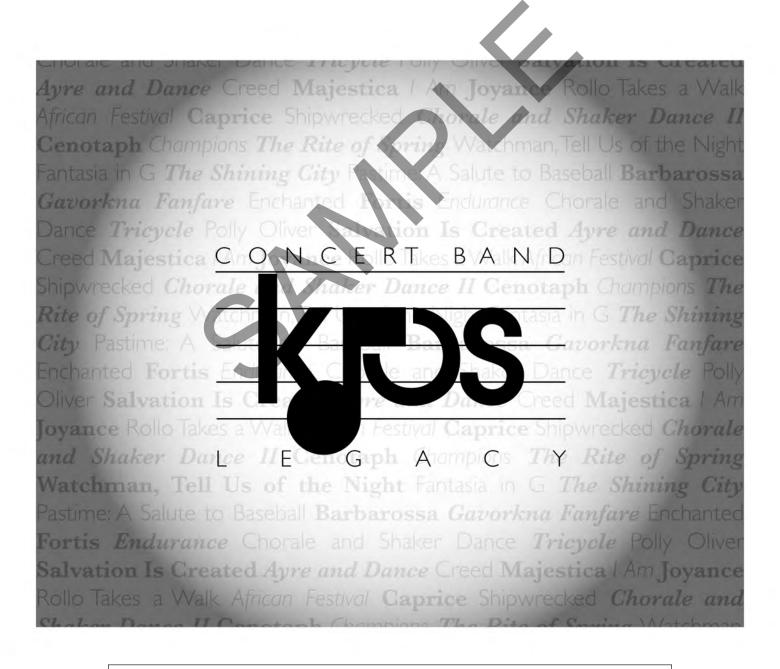
# CJ KEMP

# The Count of Monte Cristo





# **About the Composer**



Carlos Kemp Jr., also known as CJ Kemp (1999, Greensboro, NC) is an American composer, arranger, and music educator. He currently lives in Starkville, Mississippi, where he graduated from Starkville High School. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Mississippi State University. Kemp's career in composition began during his sophomore year of college as a percussionist (2018) when his duet for marimba and clarinet, *Canción de cuna*, won the annual composition competition hosted by the MSU Percussion Studio. Since then, his works for solo percussion, percussion ensemble, woodwind quintet, and concert band have been recorded and performed by several groups within the state, including the Mississippi State Symphonic Band and the Mississippi All-State Lion's Band. He is currently an assistant band director at his alma mater, Starkville High School, where he continues to teach, arrange, and compose.

# **About the Composition**

The Count of Monte Cristo is a popular adventure novel written by the prolific French author Alexander Dumas, who is also best known for his most famous work The Three Musketeers. The Count of Monte Cristo outlines the life of Edmond Dantes, a sailor who lost his soon-to-be-wife, his career as a sailor-turned-captain, and his freedom when a group of ambitious men conspired to have him imprisoned for thirteen years in the Château d'If under false allegations of Bonapartism (supporting the deposed ruler Napoleon Bonaparte and the authoritarian government associated with him). During those years in prison, Edmond befriended an Italian scholar and priest named Faria, who taught him various languages, history, culture, mathematics, science, chemistry, and medicine. As disease brings Faria close to death, he gives Edmond the location of a treasure that was given to him by a wealthy prince. The location of this treasure was the isle of Monte Cristo. After Edmond escapes prison, he finds the island, claims the treasure (worth billions), and grants himself the title of count—The Count of Monte Cristo. After thirteen years of imprisonment, Edmond uses his newfound knowledge and wealth to craft a sophisticated (and at times, convoluted) plot to bring his conspirators to justice.

Throughout the novel, there is an atmosphere of mystery surrounding the Count of Monte Cristo. "Where is he from? Where did his wealth come from? What family does he belong to?" The music written to portray this character is meant to capture the essence of Edmond's newly adopted aura: a cool headed and charismatic billionaire on the outside who burns with vengeance and hatred on the inside. The recurring four-note motif found throughout this piece is meant to correlate with the four-syllable name of Monte Cristo. When performing this piece, there should be an air of swagger and a bit of pompousness, for this is the only way I would imagine how *The Count of Monte Cristo* would stage his entrance at any event he attends.

—CJ Kemp

## **Instrumentation List**

- 4 Ist Flute
- 4 2nd Flute
- 3 Oboe
- 4 1st B♭ Clarinet
- 4 2nd B♭ Clarinet
- 4 3rd B♭ Clarinet
- 2 B♭ Bass Clarinet
- 3 Bassoon
- 2 1st Eb Alto Saxophone
- 2 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone
- 2 B♭ Tenor Saxophone
- 2 E♭ Baritone Saxophone
- 3 Ist B♭ Trumpet
- 3 2nd B♭ Trumpet
- 3 3rd B♭ Trumpet
- 2 Ist F Horn
- 2 2nd F Horn
- 2 3rd F Horn
- 2 4th F Horn
- 3 1st Trombone
- 3 2nd Trombone
- 3 3rd Trombone
- 2 Euphonium
- 2 Baritone TC
- 4 Tuba
- 2 String Bass
- 2 Percussion I:

Ride Cymbal, China (or Splash) Cymbal

2 – Percussion II:

Shaker, Suspended Cymbal

2 – Percussion III:

Sleigh Bells (or Tambourine), Tam-tam, Triangle

2 – Percussion IV:

Bongos

2 – Percussion V:

Tam-tam, 2 (Low) Tom-toms

2 – Percussion VI:

Bass Drum

2 – Percussion VII:

Vibraphone, Glockenspiel

2 – Percussion VIII:

Chimes

I - Full Conductor Score

Approximate performance time—5:00

Additional scores and parts are available.

To hear a recording of this piece or any other publication, please visit www.kjos.com.

# The Count of Monte Cristo

Approx. performance time—5:00

CJ Kemp (ASCAP)



















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Chimes







The Count of Monte Cristo – WB561













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