Stephen Hill

"Run in such a way..."

String Orchestra (Grade 3)

SARAHTIM Music Publishing

Instrumentation

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
String Bass

Duration - ca. 3:00



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About the Work...

"Run in such a way..." is a reflection on Joy. I was thinking of the quote by the 1924 Scottish Olympic runner, Eric Liddell: "I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast! And when I run I feel His pleasure."

The phrase, "Run in such a way..." is borrowed from a passage in the New Testament Book of I Corinthians chapter 9 verse 24. This setting is a musical impression of the verse of scripture I learned during my childhood days at Sunday School.

"Don't you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? **Run in such a way** to win the prize. Now everyone who competes exercises self-control in everything. They do it to receive a perishable crown, but we an imperishable crown. So I do not run like one who runs aimlessly or box like one beating the air. Instead, I discipline my body and bring it under strict control, so that after preaching to others, I will not be disqualified." (I Corinthians 9:24-27 CBV)

In 1972, the "Jogging" craze caught my attention during my 8th-grade year of JrHigh. When I learned that the PE teacher gave an "A" to the first four students to complete the warm-up run, I thought I could at least try for that. Being rewarded with an "A" was a motivating factor for sure. It took some time to get in shape enough to be one of the first four, but the daily trying paid off to the point where it became a consistent "A".

About the Composer...

Stephen Hill (b.1958) was born and raised in Southern California. His compositional lineage includes the likes of Roy Harris, Ingolf Dahl, Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, and Howard Hanson through study with Philip Westin (Cerritos College, 1976-1978) and most notably with W. Francis McBeth at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas (1978-1980). Stephen continued with graduate work at California State University, Los Angeles (1980-83) with composers Dr. Byong Kon Kim and William Hill. He composes for the simple joy of it.

For over 40 years, Stephen taught K-12 instrumental music concurrently in both the Private Christian School (Whittier Christian) and Public School (California High School) settings. Though semi-retired, Stephen still works with students by continuing to teach part-time at California High School and maintaining his private music studio, where he plays and teaches Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, and Piano. Stephen also plays with the church orchestra at Calvary Chapel, La Habra, CA. where he attends. When teaching full-time, he was primarily a "summer" composer. No longer teaching full-time, Stephen has the privilege to compose beyond just the summer months and publishes through his company, SARAHTIM–a title which comes from simply combining the name of his daughter Sarah and son Timothy. (Notes by Dr. John Burdett, Azusa Pacific University)

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"Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence." J.S.Bach

"The Lord is my shepherd..." (Psalm 23)

"Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity, you are God" (Psalm 90:2)

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For the California High School Band and Orchestra Program, Doug Nordquist, Director

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Eric Liddell (1924 Scottish Olympic runner)



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