

Through the Eyes of Innocence for flute, tuba and piano by Kenneth D. Friedrich. Available through Kenneth Friedrich: 2308 Wickersham, Suite 1804, Austin, Tex. 78741. http://kfsbrasschamber.com/Tuba_Music.html. KDF-10042. \$20.

Kenneth Friedrich has produced a sometimes contemplative yet easy to listen work for flute, tuba, and piano with *Through the Eyes of Innocence*. Being true to its name, the work has an innocent quality about it, as I can almost imagine hearing parts of the piece on popular children's shows accompanying a child exploring the neighbor's lawn or playing at the neighborhood park. Within this simple palette, Friedrich includes interesting harmonic changes that provide forward direction and good pacing throughout.

Although the range of the tuba part may seem large, 90% of the part lies within the "cash register" of the tuba with rare forays into the basement or the top of the staff. After a statement of the melody, the flute often acts as ornamentation to the tuba playing the melody, so greater technical facility is required. But all parts are well within reach of amateurs willing to work hard.

The parts are quite legible with the flute and tuba duet functioning as the instrumentalists' part and all parts are on the piano score. Readability would be improved if the piano part were written an octave lower with an octave designation at the beginning of the 1st movement. Also, the first movement has a metronome marking but no style marking while the last movement has a style marking but no metronome marking (the second movement has both). These minor inconsistencies are no reason to miss this light piece for flute, tuba and piano, and I can imagine it working well as background music while "passing the plate" at church or with a bit of added narration or theater. I think it could work quite well for children's concerts. Check out excerpts from the score and full recordings at Ken Friedrich's website above. The tuba range is DD to b.
~Jason Byrnes, University of Northern Colorado