## Franklin D. Hansen

# Enigma

Written for the Churchill Jr. High School Wind Ensemble Mark Perez and Tatyana Louis-Jacques, Directors

Grade 3+

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### THE COMPOSITION

Hmm, what is an enigma? That person in your life only described as an inscrutable mystery, the concept in your theory textbooks you cannot quite wrap your head around, or just some idea you cannot convey accurately. All of the above are examples of everyday enigmas, and unsurprisingly, *Enigma* was inspired by these observations.

While growing up, I frequently struggled to express myself and how I perceived the world. Going through the Churchill Jr. High School band program myself, I spent almost every lunch period in my band directors' offices; pestering them with questions about composition, orchestration, and general "band nerd stuff." In doing this, I began to unknowingly learn how to express myself and my thoughts not with words, but through music.

*Enigma* is just that: the curiosity, the befuddlement, the ups and downs, and the mere everyday quirkiness of life that we all experience. Get lost in your thoughts, daydream, learn how to express yourself, and enchant the world with the curiosity and excitement that can only arise from an enigma!

#### THE COMPOSER

**Franklin D. Hansen** (b. 2002) is a composer whose work has been described by Eric Ewazen as "beautifully orchestrated" with "lovely, wistful melodies," and imbued with "virtuosity and [a] terrific sparkle." His voice remains distinctive across mediums, often featuring chromatic inflections and a signature whimsical energy. His music has been performed and/or recorded by groups such as the Eastern Wind Symphony, Momenta Quartet, University of Kentucky Faculty Brass Quintet, Rutgers Saxophone Quartet, Grand Ledge High School Wind Symphony, and the East Brunswick High School Wind Ensemble.

Franklin is currently pursuing a dual degree in Music Education and Composition at Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts, where he studies with Dr. Amanda Harberg.

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