

MUSIC FOR BRASS BAND

# The Torchbearer

Symphonic Variations  
on a Theme by Eric Ball

PETER GRAHAM

## Instrumentation

British Brass Band

Percussion (3 players):

**Timpani; Percussion 1** (Triangle, Snare drum, Suspended cymbal, Tam-tam, Bass drum, Clash cymbal); **Percussion 2** (Suspended cymbal, Bass drum, Xylophone, Triangle)

*Gramercy Music (UK)*  
PO Box 41 • Cheadle Hulme  
Cheshire SK8 5HF • England  
[www.gramercymusic.com](http://www.gramercymusic.com)

To the memory of  
Eric Ball  
who knew how to write tunes  
and  
to Geoffrey Whitham  
who knew how to play them

## ABOUT PETER GRAHAM



Peter Graham and Eric Ball, London 1985

Born in Scotland Peter Graham read music at Edinburgh and London Universities (Goldsmiths' College) and, like Eric Ball, held appointments as a Salvation Army Bandmaster and as an Editor in the SA Music Editorial Department prior to working in education.

Described by *British Bandsman Magazine* as "a spectacularly imaginative and innovative talent", he has written for all levels of brass band, from educational concert music to the most demanding test-piece and is in the unique position of having had his music performed in every major brass band competition worldwide. His music has won many prizes, and in 2002 he became the first composer outside of the USA to win the American Bandmasters Association/Ostwald Award for Original Composition for Symphonic Winds.

---

## ERIC BALL TIMELINE

1903	Born Kingswood, Bristol 31 <sup>st</sup> October
1919	Appointed to the SA Music Editorial Department
1927	Commissioned Captain and Bandmaster of the SP & S Band
1942	Commissioned Bandmaster of the International Staff Band
1945	Resigned as a Salvation Army officer
1945	Music Advisor to R. Smith & Co. and The British Bandsman
1946	Nationals winning conductor with Brighthouse and Rastrick Band
1951	Editor, British Bandsman
1953	Awarded the Iles Medal by the Worshipful Company of Musicians
1956	National Brass Band Test Piece (Royal Albert Hall) <i>Festival Music</i> , followed by: <i>Journey into Freedom</i> (1967), <i>High Peak</i> (1969), <i>A Kensington Concerto</i> (1972), <i>The Wayfarer</i> (1976)
1969	Appointed OBE
1977	Recognition of 50 Years service to SA music
1989	Died October 1 <sup>st</sup>

---

**Duration: c. 12:30 minutes**

Cover design by Victoria Ward

© Copyright 2009 by Gramercy Music (UK)  
PO Box 41, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire SK8 5HF  
United Kingdom  
Web: [www.gramercymusic.com](http://www.gramercymusic.com)  
Email: [info@gramercymusic.com](mailto:info@gramercymusic.com)

*The Torchbearer* – Peter Graham  
First published July 2009  
All rights reserved

The theme from **Torchbearers** by Eric Ball is used by kind permission of Salvationist Publishing & Supplies, a division of Salvation Army Trading Company Ltd.

# The Torchbearer

Symphonic Variations on a Theme by Eric Ball

PETER GRAHAM

**Lento con espress. e cantabile**  $\text{♩} = c. 56$

Muted *mp* Open *rit.*

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭ Two *mp* Tutti

Repiano Cornet B♭ Muted *mp* Open *mp*

2nd Cornet B♭ *mp*

3rd Cornet B♭ *mp*

Flugel B♭ *mp*

Solo Horn E♭ *mp*

1st Horn E♭ *mp*

2nd Horn E♭ *mp*

1st Baritone B♭ *mp*

2nd Baritone B♭ *mp*

1st Trombone B♭ *mp*

2nd Trombone B♭ *mp*

Bass Trombone *mp*

Euphonium B♭ One *mp* Both

Bass in E♭ *mp*

Bass in B♭

Timpani *mp*

Percussion 1 Triangle *mp*

Percussion 2 Suspended cymbal *mp*

poco meno mosso                                      rall.                                      13 Andante cantabile ♩ = c. 88

Soprano Cornet in E♭    *f*    *mp*    *dim.*    *pp*

Solo Cornet B♭    *f*    *mp*    *dim.*    *pp*

Repiano Cornet B♭    *f*    *mp*

2nd Cornet B♭    *f*    *mp*

3rd Cornet B♭    *f*    *mp*    *dim.*    *pp*

Flugel B♭    *f*    *mp*

Solo Horn E♭    *f*    *mp*    Solo    *mp*

1st Horn E♭    *f*    *mp*    *p*

2nd Horn E♭    *f*    *mp*

1st Baritone B♭    *f*    *mp*    *p*

2nd Baritone B♭    *f*    *mp*    *p*

1st Trombone B♭    *f*    *mp*    *p*

2nd Trombone B♭    *f*    *mp*    *p*

Bass Trombone    *f*    *mp*    *p*

Euphonium B♭    *f*    *mp*

Bass in E♭    *f*    *mp*    *p*

Bass in B♭    *f*    *mp*    *p*

Timpani    *f*

Percussion 1    L.V.

Percussion 2    *f*

32 **poco accel.** **tenuto** 35 **Allegro brillante** ♩ = c. 138

Soprano Cornet in E♭  
Solo Cornet B♭  
Repiano Cornet B♭  
2nd Cornet B♭  
3rd Cornet B♭  
Flugel B♭  
Solo Horn E♭  
1st Horn E♭  
2nd Horn E♭  
1st Baritone B♭  
2nd Baritone B♭  
1st Trombone B♭  
2nd Trombone B♭  
Bass Trombone  
Euphonium B♭  
Bass in E♭  
Bass in B♭  
Timpani  
Percussion 1  
Percussion 2

*f* Tutti  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*mp*  
*p*  
*f*  
*mp*  
*mp*  
*f*  
*mp*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*mp*  
*mp*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
Non solo muted  
Muted  
Muted  
Open  
Open  
Open  
Both  
One  
Both  
Snare drum  
Bass drum

37

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

76 **Brillante**

This musical score is for a section titled "76 Brillante". It is written for a large brass and percussion ensemble. The score is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Soprano Cornet in E♭:** Plays a melodic line starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5.
- Solo Cornet B♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- Repiano Cornet B♭:** Plays a sustained half note G4.
- 2nd Cornet B♭:** Plays a sustained half note G4.
- 3rd Cornet B♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- Flugel B♭:** Plays a sustained half note G4.
- Solo Horn E♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- 1st Horn E♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- 2nd Horn E♭:** Plays a sustained half note G4.
- 1st Baritone B♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- 2nd Baritone B♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- 1st Trombone B♭:** Plays a sustained half note G4.
- 2nd Trombone B♭:** Plays a sustained half note G4.
- Bass Trombone:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- Euphonium B♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- Bass in E♭:** Plays a sustained half note G4.
- Bass in B♭:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- Timpani:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- Percussion 1:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5.
- Percussion 2:** Plays a sustained half note G4.

The score includes dynamic markings of *ff* (fortissimo) throughout. The percussion parts include a "B.D." (Bass Drum) marking. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with staves for each instrument.



91 Adagio e sciolto molto ♩ = c. 69

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Two muted

pp

Non solo

mp

pp

pp

pp

Non solo

mp

mp

Muted

pp

Muted

pp

Solo 1

mp

mf

Solo

mp

mf

Both

mp

pp

mp

Tri.

mp

97

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

*pp dim. a niente*

104 Andante appassionato ♩ = c. 72

103

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

*p sempre tenuto*

Tutti open

*p sempre tenuto*

Tutti open

*p sempre tenuto*

*sempre tenuto*

*sempre tenuto*

*sempre tenuto*

(tr)

(Solo 1)

*pp*

*mf*

*p sempre tenuto*

*p sempre tenuto*

Tam tam

*p*

132 A tempo

This musical score is for a brass and percussion ensemble. It features the following parts:

- Soprano Cornet in E $\flat$ : *Non solo*, *f* to *mp*
- Solo Cornet B $\flat$ : *Tutti*, *f* to *mp*
- Repiano Cornet B $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- 2nd Cornet B $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- 3rd Cornet B $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- Flugel B $\flat$ : *Non solo*, *f* to *mp*
- Solo Horn E $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- 1st Horn E $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- 2nd Horn E $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- 1st Baritone B $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- 2nd Baritone B $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- 1st Trombone B $\flat$ : *f* to *mf* (Solo)
- 2nd Trombone B $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- Bass Trombone: *f* to *mp*
- Euphonium B $\flat$ : *Both*, *f* to *mp*
- Bass in E $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- Bass in B $\flat$ : *f* to *mp*
- Timpani: *f* to *mp*
- Percussion 1: *f* to *mp*
- Percussion 2: *f*

The score includes dynamic markings (*f*, *mp*, *mf*), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions like *Non solo*, *Tutti*, and *Solo*. It also features triplets and trills.

142 Vivace ♩ = c. 90

rall.

138

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

*Solo*

*mf*

*mp dim.*

*pp*

*Muted*

*p*

*One muted*

*p*

*One muted*

*p*

*dim.*

*3*

*3*

*3*

*3*

*pp*

*pp*

*dim.*

*3*

*3*

*pp*

*pp*

*Solo*

*mf*

*pp*

*One*

*3*

*dim.*

*pp*

*Both*

*f*

*dim.*

*3*

*pp*

*ff* (*sempre sec*)

B.D.

*ff* (*sempre sec*)

*f*

143

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*ff dim.*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

150

148

Soprano Cornet in E $\flat$

Solo Cornet B $\flat$

Repiano Cornet B $\flat$

2nd Cornet B $\flat$

3rd Cornet B $\flat$

Flugel B $\flat$

Solo Horn E $\flat$

1st Horn E $\flat$

2nd Horn E $\flat$

1st Baritone B $\flat$

2nd Baritone B $\flat$

1st Trombone B $\flat$

2nd Trombone B $\flat$

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B $\flat$

Bass in E $\flat$

Bass in B $\flat$

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*ff*

*ff*

*f*

205 Andante e sciolto molto ♩ = c. 88

202

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭ *Solo (open)* *mp*

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭ *Non solo* *p*

1st Horn E♭ *p*

2nd Horn E♭ *p*

1st Baritone B♭ *mp* *p* *p*

2nd Baritone B♭ *mp* *p* *p*

1st Trombone B♭ *mp* *p*

2nd Trombone B♭ *mp* *p*

Bass Trombone *mp* *p*

Euphonium B♭ *One* *p*

Bass in E♭ *p*

Bass in B♭ *p*

Timpani

Percussion 1 *L.V.* *mp* *p*

Percussion 2



213

211

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

The musical score for page 43, measures 211-213, is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes parts for the following instruments:

- Soprano Cornet in E♭:** Rests throughout the measures.
- Solo Cornet B♭:** Starts with a *cresc.* in measure 211, followed by a *mf* dynamic in measure 212. It features a triplet in measure 213.
- Repiano Cornet B♭:** Rests throughout the measures.
- 2nd Cornet B♭:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic in measure 212.
- 3rd Cornet B♭:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic in measure 212.
- Flugel B♭:** Rests throughout the measures, with a *mp* dynamic in measure 213.
- Solo Horn E♭:** Starts with a *cresc.* in measure 211, followed by a *mp* dynamic in measure 212.
- 1st Horn E♭:** Starts with a *cresc.* in measure 211, followed by a *mp* dynamic in measure 212.
- 2nd Horn E♭:** Rests throughout the measures, with a *mp* dynamic in measure 213.
- 1st Baritone B♭:** Rests throughout the measures, with a *mp* dynamic in measure 213.
- 2nd Baritone B♭:** Rests throughout the measures.
- 1st Trombone B♭:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic in measure 212, and a *mp* dynamic in measure 213.
- 2nd Trombone B♭:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic in measure 212.
- Bass Trombone:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic in measure 212.
- Euphonium B♭:** Starts with a *cresc.* and triplet in measure 211, followed by a *mp* dynamic in measure 212. It features another triplet and *cresc.* in measure 213.
- Bass in E♭:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic and triplet in measure 212.
- Bass in B♭:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic and triplet in measure 212.
- Timpani:** Rests throughout the measures.
- Percussion 1:** Rests throughout the measures.
- Percussion 2:** Rests in measure 211, then plays a *mp* dynamic in measure 213.

219 **rall.** **223** Poco piu mosso

Soprano Cornet in E $\flat$

Solo Cornet B $\flat$   
*dim.* *p*

Repiano Cornet B $\flat$   
*p*

2nd Cornet B $\flat$   
*p*

3rd Cornet B $\flat$   
*p*

Flugel B $\flat$   
*dim.* *p*

Solo Horn E $\flat$

1st Horn E $\flat$   
*dim.* *p*

2nd Horn E $\flat$   
*dim.* *p*

1st Baritone B $\flat$

2nd Baritone B $\flat$

1st Trombone B $\flat$   
*Solo* *p*

2nd Trombone B $\flat$   
*dim.* *p*

Bass Trombone  
*dim.* *p*

Euphonium B $\flat$   
*dim.* *Solo* *mp*

Bass in E $\flat$   
*p* *pp*

Bass in B $\flat$   
*dim.* *p* *pp*

Timpani

Percussion 1  
*mp* *L.V.* *p*

Percussion 2

265 A tempo

262

Soprano Cornet in E $\flat$

Solo Cornet B $\flat$

Repiano Cornet B $\flat$

2nd Cornet B $\flat$

3rd Cornet B $\flat$

Flugel B $\flat$

Solo Horn E $\flat$

1st Horn E $\flat$

2nd Horn E $\flat$

1st Baritone B $\flat$

2nd Baritone B $\flat$

1st Trombone B $\flat$

2nd Trombone B $\flat$

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B $\flat$

Bass in E $\flat$

Bass in B $\flat$

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

rall.

269 Allegro vivace ♩ = c. 136

268

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

*dim. a niente*

*dim. a niente*

*dim. a niente*

*dim. a niente*

*dim. a niente*

*p marcato*

*p marcato*

*p marcato*

*dim. a niente*

*Tutti*

*p marcato*

*p marcato*

*p marcato (sec)*

*p*

291 Andante e molto sostenuto ♩ = c. 78

289

Soprano Cornet in E $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Solo Cornet B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Repiano Cornet B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

2nd Cornet B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

3rd Cornet B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Flugel B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Solo Horn E $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

1st Horn E $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

2nd Horn E $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

1st Baritone B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

2nd Baritone B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

1st Trombone B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

2nd Trombone B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Bass Trombone  
*ff dim.* *mf*

Euphonium B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Bass in E $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Bass in B $\flat$   
*ff dim.* *mf*

Timpani  
*ff dim.* *mf*

Percussion 1  
*ff*

Percussion 2  
*ff*

Soprano Cornet in E $\flat$

Solo Cornet B $\flat$

Repiano Cornet B $\flat$

2nd Cornet B $\flat$

3rd Cornet B $\flat$

Flugel B $\flat$

Solo Horn E $\flat$

1st Horn E $\flat$

2nd Horn E $\flat$

1st Baritone B $\flat$

2nd Baritone B $\flat$

1st Trombone B $\flat$

2nd Trombone B $\flat$

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B $\flat$

Bass in E $\flat$

Bass in B $\flat$

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

305 **307** Allargando ♩ = c. 72

rall.

Soprano Cornet in E♭ *mp cresc.* *ff*

Solo Cornet B♭ *mp cresc.* *ff*

Repiano Cornet B♭ *mp cresc.* *ff*

2nd Cornet B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

3rd Cornet B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

Flugel B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

Solo Horn E♭ *cresc.* *ff*

1st Horn E♭ *cresc.* *ff*

2nd Horn E♭ *cresc.* *ff*

1st Baritone B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

2nd Baritone B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

1st Trombone B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

2nd Trombone B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

Bass Trombone *cresc.* *ff*

Euphonium B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

Bass in E♭ *cresc.* *ff*

Bass in B♭ *cresc.* *ff*

Timpani *cresc.* *ff*

Percussion 1 *mp cresc.* *ff*

Percussion 2 *mp cresc.* *ff*

*Sus. cym.* *L.V.*

*B.D.*

309 *rall.*

Soprano Cornet in E♭

Solo Cornet B♭

Repiano Cornet B♭

2nd Cornet B♭

3rd Cornet B♭

Flugel B♭

Solo Horn E♭

1st Horn E♭

2nd Horn E♭

1st Baritone B♭

2nd Baritone B♭

1st Trombone B♭

2nd Trombone B♭

Bass Trombone

Euphonium B♭

Bass in E♭

Bass in B♭

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

*cresc.*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

Clash cymbal