



Unimaginable

CHRISTINA HUSS

Instrumentation

Full Score	1
Flute 1	4
Flute 2	4
Oboe	2
B♭ Clarinet 1	4
B♭ Clarinet 2	4
B♭ Clarinet 3	4
Bass Clarinet	2
Bassoon	2
Alto Saxophone 1	2
Alto Saxophone 2	2
Tenor Saxophone	2
Baritone Saxophone	2
B♭ Trumpet 1	4
B♭ Trumpet 2	4
B♭ Trumpet 3	4
Horn in F 1	2
Horn in F 2	2
Trombone 1	3
Trombone 2	3
Euphonium	4
Baritone Tuba	2
Tuba	4
String Bass	2
Timpani	2
+Chimes	
Mallets	3
Vibraphone, Marimba, Xylophone	
Percussion 1	3
Wind Chimes, Snare Drum, Bass Drum	
Percussion 2	4
Gong, Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals, Cabasa	
Percussion 3	4
Rainstick, 3 Tom-toms, Thundertube/Sheet, Opt. Ocean Drum	

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ABOUT THE COMPOSER



With a career spanning 35+ years in American music education, Christina M. Huss has taught and conducted bands at both the middle school and high school level, most recently as Director of Bands at Valdosta Middle School, where she retired in 2016. Throughout her career, Ms. Huss' bands have performed in multiple venues throughout the Southeastern United States and have consistently received superior ratings in various state and regional events.

Ms. Huss has served in a variety of roles in state music affiliations, and has enjoyed several honors and awards, including Teacher of the Year and STAR Teacher, during her 28-year tenure at Brooks County High School in Quitman, GA. Since retiring, Christina enjoys composing music for band, and continues to teach band part-time at Berrien Middle School in Nashville, GA.

A native of Georgia, Ms. Huss is a founding co-director and conductor of the Azalea Winds Community Band based in Valdosta, GA, where she continues to perform and serve as an adjudicator, guest conductor, and clinician.

UNIMAGINABLE

After taking on this amazing project, I quickly realized that I wanted to compose a band piece that would not only capture the feel and sounds of the monster hurricane, but also touch upon the widespread devastation and loss experienced by so many. However, I didn't want to end there—I also wanted to capture a bit of Appalachia, and the beauty of this magnificent, ancient area. Most importantly, I hoped to convey the incredible courage and strength of its people as they recovered from one of the worst natural disasters in American history.

This work is inspired by the majesty and resilience of the Appalachian region, beginning with the quiet trickle of rain as clouds gather over the mountains. Echoes of traditional Appalachian tunes set the scene, leading into a proud main theme—an "Asheville motif"—representing both the natural beauty and the enduring spirit of the people of the region. Solo passages highlight the rivers, streams, and ridges, while familiar melodies such as *Black Is the Color* and *Wayfaring Stranger* weave through the landscape, grounding the music in its cultural roots.

As the piece unfolds, the calm turns turbulent: rivers overflow, melodies fragment, and the music portrays the destructive power of the storm. Out of this turmoil, *Amazing Grace* emerges—first in a minor key, then transforming into a radiant, hopeful statement with rich harmonies and countermelodies. The return of the Asheville motif, now altered and strengthened, closes the piece, reflecting resilience and renewal as the mountains and rivers endure.

Unimaginable was commissioned by band director Frances Shelton to honor Western North Carolina's resiliency after the devastation of Hurricane Helene. With support from The Women Band Directors International Foundation, Inc., and the Biltmore Music Showcase, this expressive piece was premiered by the Asheville Community Band from Asheville, North Carolina, in the fall of 2025.



excelciamusic.com/christina-huss



[cmhuss](https://www.facebook.com/cmhuss)



[band_lady](https://www.instagram.com/band_lady)



[excelciamusicpublishing](https://www.youtube.com/excelciamusicpublishing)

Recordings are available on all major streaming services.

8

Fl. 1, 2

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2, 3

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax. 1, 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2, 3

Hn. 1, 2

Tbn. 1, 2

Euph.

Tuba

Chm.

Mal.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mp *cresc.* *p* *cresc.* *a2* *mp* *cresc.* *a2* *mp* *cresc.* *p* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.* *ff* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

To Timpani

To Xylophone

Suspended Cymbal

Gong

cresc. *f*

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Fl. 1, 2

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2, 3

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax. 1, 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2, 3

Hn. 1, 2

Tbn. 1, 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Xyl.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

W.C.

Rain stick

mp

mf

p

ff

mf

a2

Cue: Bassoon

To Vibes

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42 With Intensity ♩ = 84

Fl. 1, 2

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2, 3

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax. 1, 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

42 With Intensity ♩ = 84

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2, 3

Hn. 1, 2

Tbn. 1, 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mrb. Marimba

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

f Random Ocean Drum and Thunder tube / sheet sounds through measure 57

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The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Fl. 1, 2:** Flute parts with dynamics *mp* and *mf*.
- Ob.:** Oboe part with dynamics *mp* and *mf*.
- B♭ Cl. 1:** Clarinet part with dynamics *mp* and *mf*, ending with a *Div.* (divisi) instruction.
- B♭ Cl. 2, 3:** Clarinet parts with dynamics *mp* and *mf*.
- B. Cl.:** Bass Clarinet part with dynamic *mp*.
- Bsn.:** Bassoon part with dynamic *mp*.
- A. Sax. 1, 2:** Alto Saxophone parts with dynamics *mp* and *mf*.
- T. Sax.:** Tenor Saxophone part with dynamics *mp* and *mf*.
- B. Sax.:** Baritone Saxophone part with dynamic *mp*.
- B♭ Tpt. 1:** Trumpet part with dynamics *mp* and *f*.
- B♭ Tpt. 2, 3:** Trumpet parts with dynamics *mp* and *f*.
- Hn. 1, 2:** Horn parts with dynamics *mp* and *mf*, including a *Tutti a2* instruction.
- Tbn. 1, 2:** Trombone parts with dynamics *mp* and *f*.
- Euph.:** Euphonium part with dynamic *mp*.
- Tuba:** Tuba part with dynamic *mp*.
- Timp.:** Timpani part with dynamics *p* and *mf*.
- Mrb.:** Maracas part with dynamics *mp* and *mf*.
- Perc. 1:** Percussion part with dynamics *mp* and *mf*, including a *Sus. Cym.* (Suspended Cymbal) instruction.
- Perc. 2:** Percussion part with dynamics *mp* and *p*.
- Perc. 3:** Percussion part with dynamics *mp* and *mf*.

The score is divided into measures 46, 47, 48, and 49. A large diagonal watermark reading "For Preview Only" and "Excelcia Music Publishing" is overlaid across the score.

59 Impactful ♩ = 76

Fl. 1, 2

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2, 3

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax. 1, 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

3/4

mf

mf a2

mf

mf

59 Impactful ♩ = 76

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2, 3

Hn. 1, 2

Tbn. 1, 2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mal.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

3/4

p *mf* Chimes

p *mf* Sus. Cym.

p *mf* Gong

mf Rainstick and Ocean drum

mf

Fl. 1, 2
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2, 3
B. Cl.
Bsn.
A. Sax. 1, 2
T. Sax.
B. Sax.
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2, 3
Hn. 1, 2
Tbn. 1, 2
Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
Mal.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Perc. 3

mp

mp

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89 ♩ = 84

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The instruments are listed on the left side of the page, with their respective staves. The score is divided into measures 89 through 93. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the tempo is marked as ♩ = 84. The dynamic markings are *ff* (fortissimo) for most instruments, with some variations to *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano) for the percussion. The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the brass instruments play a more complex, syncopated rhythm. The percussion includes a marimba, snare drum, and tom-toms. The score is marked with 'Div.' (divisi) and 'Unis.' (unison) for some instruments, indicating changes in the number of players. A large watermark 'For Preview Only' and 'Excelcia Music Publishing' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl. 1, 2; Ob.; B♭ Cl. 1; B♭ Cl. 2, 3; B. Cl.; Bsn.; A. Sax. 1, 2; T. Sax.; B. Sax.; B♭ Tpt. 1 (with 'Div.' marking); B♭ Tpt. 2, 3; Hn. 1, 2; Tbn. 1, 2; Euph.; Tuba; Timp.; Mal.; Perc. 1; Perc. 2; and Perc. 3. The score spans measures 94 to 98. Key dynamic markings include 'subito p' (sudden piano) in the B♭ Clarinet, Bassoon, B♭ Saxophone, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, and Tuba parts. The Tuba part also features a 'Solo' marking. Percussion parts include 'p cresc.' (piano crescendo) for Perc. 2 and 'mf' (mezzo-forte) for Perc. 3, with a 'Rain stick' effect indicated. A large diagonal watermark 'For Preview Only Excelcia Music Publishing' is overlaid across the center of the page.