

Comparison between the 1915 band orchestration of the “Finale” to *Hail! California* and 2015 Centennial Performing Edition

Instrument	<i>Hail! California</i> (plus number of orchestral winds and percussion)	“Finale” to <i>Hail! California</i> 2015 Centennial Performing Edition
Piccolo	1 (+1)	1
Flutes	2 (+2)	4
Oboes	2 (+2)	2
E-flat Clarinet	2	1
Solo Clarinet & Clarinet 1	8 (+2)	4
Clarinet 2	3	4
Clarinet 3	3	4
Bass Clarinet	1	2
Bassoon	2 (+2)	2
Sarrusophone & Contrabassoon	1 (+1)	Contrabass Clarinet & Contrabassoon
Soprano Saxophone	1	1 [optional]
Alto Saxophone	1	2
Tenor Saxophone	1	2
Baritone Saxophone	1	1
Trumpets & Cornets	8 (+4)	8*
Horns	4 (+4)	4*
Trombones	4 (+4)	5
Baritones [Tenor Horns]	4	4
Tuba	6	6
Percussion	4 (+4+timpani)	4+timpani
Contrabass	(section)	1
	59 wind band + 27 orchestral = 86 total	65* total

* As can be seen in the above chart: a large band is encouraged for performance. A full contingent of flutes and clarinets, and a minimum of six trumpets are required for performance. It is ideal to have double the number of horns and even up to 12 trumpets, three players per part, if possible.

In order to create a more manageable format for this edition, the musical content of the cornets and trumpets from the full orchestral version is now present in the four trumpet parts. It is suggested to have a large trumpet section of preferably/at least two players on each of the four parts as a full performance of *Hail! California* would have included a total of 12 trumpets and cornets: four orchestral trumpets and another two in the wind band along with six cornet players.

The soprano saxophone part that is retained in this edition may be viewed as optional. The original orchestration was for soprano, alto, tenor, and baritone saxophones and are retained in this edition. If a soprano saxophone is not available, two alto saxophones may perform the alto saxophone part, where the soprano saxophone material is transposed and incorporated as an upper divisi in the alto saxophone part where technically and musically suited. As the soprano saxophone mostly doubles the clarinet 1 line, it is up to the conductor and the practical forces that are involved within each ensemble to determine if they wish to preserve the original orchestration with soprano saxophone, or to utilize the more customary two alto saxophones. Both are acceptable ways of performing the work.

Premiere

*The world premiere of HAIL! CALIFORNIA
was given on 19 June 1915 (repeated on 24 and 27 June)
at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, Festival Hall, San Francisco CA
by the Exposition Orchestra (Boston Symphony Orchestra), John Philip Sousa’s Band, and Wallace A. Sabin, organ
Camille Saint-Saëns, conductor*

*The first performance of the “2015 Centennial Performing Edition”
was given on 14 November 2014
at the West Side Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood NJ
by the Ridgewood Concert Band
Dr. Christian Wilhjelm, music director*

duration circa 6 minutes

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