



King of Diamonds Overture
(Le Roi de Carreau) for Concert Band
Howard Cable

Instrumentation

Piccolo
Flute
Oboe
Bassoon
Clarinet 1, 2, 3
Alto Clarinet
Bass Clarinet
Alto Saxophone
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone
Trumpet 1, 2, 3
French Horn 1, 2, 3, 4
Trombone 1, 2, 3
Baritone
Tuba
Percussion
(Snare Drum, Sus. Cymbal)
Mallets
(Xylophone, Glockenspiel, Chimes)
Timpani
String Bass

Duration: ca. 4 min. 30 sec.

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Howard Cable's 78-year career in the music industry was one of the longest in North America. He formed his first dance band in 1937, and earned his own radio show at the CBC in 1942. With the advent of television in 1952, he became music director and arranger for many celebrated television programs – including the very popular “*Showtime*.” In the 1960s, Cable moved to New York, where he arranged for Richard Rodgers, Meredith Willson and Frank Loesser, and conducted *Man of La Mancha* on Broadway. He returned to Canada to become Director of Onsite Entertainment for Expo '67. As Music Director of the Royal York Hotel, Cable worked with some of the greatest names in show business – Count Basie, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Peggy Lee, Tina Turner, and Ray Charles, to name only a few. Howard passed away in March of 2016, but his influence lives on through Canadian music and generations of musicians still performing today.

Written by Canadian composer Calixa Lavallée in 1888, known best for his composition “O Canada,” KING OF DIAMONDS Overture shows Lavallée's great talent and natural sense of melody and rhythm. Only a small number of Lavallée's known major works have survived since the 19th century, and this arrangement of King of Diamonds is an excellent tribute to this brilliant composer. It has been arranged for both brass and concert bands by Canadian composer Howard Cable, who achieves as much excellence as the original.

Cover photo by Kristan Toczko

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