



This show concept celebrates the look and feel of old Gothic style churches and integrates Thomas Tallis' 16th century Tudor Psalm theme. The vivid musical score imagines the colors, diversity and majesty of stained glass windows and can serve as the primary show design inspiration. Additionally, bands may choose to portray their own mystery story reminiscent of novelist Dan Brown by using narrative scenes depicted on stained glass props, flags, etc. as found in an old Tudor style church.

Potential Show Arc Approaches - There are multiple possibilities for this concept

Approach #1 - No real story; simply using the design, the color and the broad Tudor (English Gothic) church window imagery as inspiration.

- Three different musical movements and moods could translate to three different colors
- For the color scheme and visual feel, the evolution could go from dark to light or...
 - From simple design to ornate design or...
 - A combination of both ideas

Approach #2 - A mystery story that takes place in a Tudor style church

- You can portray the story in the look of Medieval time, present time, or any time period desired
- There are opportunities to involve characters (if desired)
- The story can involve a robbery
 - Precious gems, glass, a metal challis, etc.
- The story could also involve a kidnapping, disappearance, or an investigative search.
 - This show approach can include the color and ornamentation evolution as described in approach #1 above (see imagery later in this document)



Musical Description and Guard Equipment Outline

<u>Introduction*</u> - Dark, ominous, free in tempo and distant

- Musical Mood chanting/singing ala Monks in a church very ancient sounding
 - * this could also serve as all or part of the pre-show if desired
- Visual Approach using choreography and robes/cloaks
 - No flags/equipment

Part 1 - Fast, dark, driving and suspenseful

- Musical Mood begins distant building to big impact remaining intense to end
- Visual Approach flags and weapons

Part 2 - Slow, reflective, isolated, somber turning hopeful

- Musical Mood begins sparse with soloist; layers intensity to hopeful climax
- Visual Approach Body and perhaps small group choreography to start
 - Layer in members on new flag with all on flag to climax

Part 3 - Fast, hopeful, celebratory and triumphant

- Musical Mood begins tuneful and light w/flute soloist
 - layering and building to triumph/celebratory ending
- Visual Approach Weapons and flags moving to all flags by end
 - All on flags for entire song could also work

Background and Research

<u>Psalm 2 ("Why do the heathen rage")</u> by Thomas Tallis was written in 1567 as part of *Archbishop Parker's Psalter*. This original version, later known as the Tudor Psalm, was written in the Phrygian mode with the melody in the tenor voice. Subsequently, fragments of the theme are selected for rhythmic and melodic transformation. This famous theme was used by Fisher Tull in his famous concert band work <u>Sketches on a Tudor Psalm</u>, composed in 1971.

<u>Tudor architecture</u> is a style of architecture that developed in England between 1485 and 1558. It was a transitional style, mixing elements of Renaissance architecture with a Gothic style found mostly in England called Perpendicular Gothic because it emphasized vertical lines.

Tudor Period - 1485 and 1603 in **England** and Wales

10 Simple Facts about Tudors



Stained Glass

<u>Stained glass windows</u> were used predominantly in churches, but were also found in wealthy domestic settings and public buildings such as town halls, though surviving examples of secular glass are very rare indeed. The purpose of stained glass windows in a church was both to enhance the beauty of their setting and to inform the viewer through narrative or symbolism. The subject matter was generally religious in churches, though "portraits" and <u>heraldry</u> are often included, and many narrative scenes give valuable insights into the medieval world.

Stained glass is so-called because of the silver stain usually applied to the side of the glass which faces the outside. When the glass is fired, the stain turns a yellowy-gold colour. During the English Reformation, many stained glass windows were smashed and destroyed as part of the 1547 Injunctions against images. Jun 1, 2017

Painted details and yellow <u>stain</u> are often used to improve the design. The term stained glass is also applied to windows in which the colours have been painted onto the glass and then fused to the glass in a <u>kiln</u>.

Stained glass is much used in <u>Christian art</u> but other themes are not rare. It is still popular today, and often called <u>art</u> glass. It is often used in luxury homes and commercial buildings.

- Some colours are added to stained glass by the salts of:
 - Copper: metal gives dark red glass
 - Gold: metal in tiny amounts (0.001%) produces ruby red glass
 - Silver, usually silver nitrate, gives range of red to yellow colours
 - Cobalt: brilliant blue
 - Manganese dioxide: green
 - o <u>Iron(II) oxide</u>: blue-green
 - o Chromium: dark green

Books and Movies about Gothic Style Churches with Stained Glass

The Name of the Rose

The Name of the Rose Film

The Joanna Stafford Mystery Series

Murder in Stained Glass

A Shattering Crime - A Stained Glass Mystery

Dan Brown/Robert Langdon Book Series



Props

Props for this show can be as simple or complex as desired. Most groups have budget restrictions so simple stained glass panel backdrops could work nicely for this show.

• Reference <u>suggested images on FMP website</u>



Groups can use the Corps Design Frame to create stained glass window frames for this show...

• If resources are available, the larger <u>Media Monster frame</u> would be good to get this up to 14 feet in height

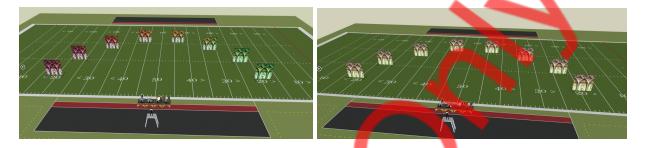




Window Colors

Groups could have the same color window panel backdrops for the entire show. Or...

- Start with darker/less colorful ones and then flip them around to reveal a more colorful look for the end of the show.
 - Reference <u>suggested images on FMP website</u>



• A minimum of six (6) windows/frames would work best but if possible, more could close down the stage and enhance the field, especially for smaller and younger groups.

Costume Ideas and Flag Colors





- SK-FMP 2020
- Intro of Show Black, dark red or maroon cape/cloak or robe with hood is recommended
 - The twirl and "swoosh of fabric" w/simple choreography is what matters
 - Perhaps when opened up, the robe could reveal a brighter color too
- Part 1- Part 3 Robe/cloak is removed revealing a modern treatment of an English Tudor type of look
 - The main color could be ruby or maroon matching the use of that color on the Part 2 and Part 3 flag for the show
 - Reference <u>suggested images on FMP website</u>
 - The design can also incorporate some burnt orange/subtle gold that exists in Part
 1 flag above?
 - Ruffles and upper body ornamentation could work well for this show
 - No skirt on lower half of body except for the intro of the show
 - It could be cumbersome for equipment work/drill responsibilities

