

World Famous Marches

	William Rimmer (1862-1936)	
1	The Cossack	4:22
2	Punchinello	3:42
3	The Australasian	4:18
4	The North Star	4:24
5	Irresistable	4:09
6	Black Knight	4:08
	Hermann Louis Blankenburg (1876-1956)	
7	Flying Eagle*	2:35
8	Gruss und Thüringen* Greetings and Thuringia	2:57
9	Auf heimatlicher Erde* On Native Soil	2:39
10	Nec Aspera Terrent* And They Fear Not Hardship	2:31
11	Jubelsturm* Jubilation	2:35
12	Unter Kaisers Fahnen* Under the Emperor's Banner	2:27
13	Jugendfrühling* Spring of Youth	3:10

	Robert Browne Hall (1858-1907)	
14	Dunlap Commandery	2:12
15	Minstrel Jokes	2:20
16	R.L.I.B. Richmond Light Infantry Blues	2:09
17	Death or Glory	3:13
	William Rimmer	
18	Ravenswood	4:05
19	Commonwealth	3:05
20	Orion	4:14
21	Knight of the Road	4:34 TT 70:43
	John Foster Black Dyke Mills Band Michael Antrobus Roy Newsome*	

World Famous Marches

This compact disc brings together music by three of the world's greatest march writers – Rimmer, Blankenburg and R.B. Hall. William Rimmer (1862–1936), a member of a 'banding' family, first studied music with his father, Thomas, who was bandmaster of the Southport Rifle Band. First of all young William became a drummer but then he transferred to cornet, playing solo cornet with the 'Rifles' at the 1882 Belle Vue contest.

He later played with many of Britain's top brass bands, but it was as a conductor that he had his greatest triumphs, culminating in the tremendous feat of conducting the winning band both in the Belle Vue and the Crystal Palace championships for *five* successive years, from 1905 to 1909. Following this, he more or less retired from regular conducting, concentrating on his work as composer and arranger, and as musical editor for various publishing houses.

He produced many test pieces in one form or another, mostly either operatic selections or easy fantasias for lower section bands, but he is chiefly remembered today for his solos and his contest marches. A selection of ten out of his enormous output of marches is to be

found on this disc, all very characteristic Rimmer marches.

Hermann Louis Blankenburg (1876–1956) was born in the village of Thamsbrück in eastern Germany. Unlike Rimmer, being the son of a farmer, he taught himself to play various instruments and when, at the age of ten, he started to conduct his school orchestra, it became apparent that he was not going to stay with the family farm for very long.

He led an odd sort of life, sometimes in the army, sometimes playing professionally in civilian orchestras, and for a time as an odd job man and bricklayer. His family life also was far from settled. He was once arrested 'for deserting his family' and was later sent to prison for bigamy!

Nevertheless, as a writer of military marches he achieved immortality, with at least 300 of them published and probably many more lost or destroyed. His marches are all in the characteristic German style and he was very fond of writing soaring euphonium counter-melodies, as is obvious from the examples to be heard here.

Robert Browne Hall (1858–1907) was American. For a time it was claimed that he was British but this is not so. He was born in America, lived a rather sad life there, and died in poverty at the age of forty-eight. His name is, nevertheless, revered in American band circles, some people even rating him as the equal of the great Sousa himself in the quality of his marches.

Hall inherited his love of music from his parents – both academically trained musicians. His mother was an accomplished pianist and his father a virtuoso performer on the keyed bugle and its successor, the cornet. 'R.B.' also became a fine cornet player, though when he was sixteen his father died and he had to work in a local shoe factory to help support his mother and two sisters.

Though he was a less prolific composer than either Rimmer or Blankenburg, the quality of his march writing is unquestionable, as the examples on this CD illustrate.

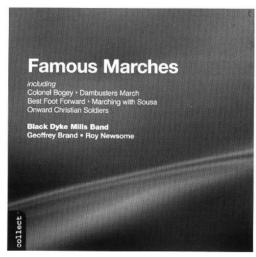
So, twenty-one top class marches, representative of three gifted march writers, each with a different background and of different nationality. But it would be remiss not to pay tribute to the late Robert Hoe of Poukeepsie in the State of New York, USA, without whose enthusiasm this particular collection of marches would never have been available.

Mr Hoe, who died in 1983, was a businessman with an unbounded love of bands and marches. Through his drive, enthusiasm and generosity, many of the world's marches have been unearthed and recorded for posterity, alongside little-known marches and popular favourites. He was responsible for the production of over 250 LPs of marches and their distribution to a select group of march enthusiasts throughout the world. Two of these were made by the Black Dyke Mills Band and subsequently put out on general release, for the enjoyment of anyone who likes listening to a good, old-fashioned march.

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Dyke Mills Band/Antrobus

WORLD FAMOUS MARCHES

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