

WILLIAM WALTON
1902-1983

Crown Imperial
transcr. Herbert Murrill

Crown Imperial was composed for the coronation of King George VI. It follows the form of the famous *Pomp and Circumstance* marches by Edward Elgar, with a rousing march theme punctuated in the middle by a grander, soaring melody. At the time, the piece was called "... frankly a *pastiche* on a well-known model of ternary pomp and circumstance, with the regulation strut and swagger, plenty of plain diatonics, and a *nobilmente* tune in the middle ... unrepresentative of the composer, except as an example of competence ... unlikely to survive." History has proven otherwise – the piece constantly shows up worldwide on organ, orchestral, and band concert programs.