New* Music for High School Orchestra

*Published in the last 15 years

Thank you for "attending" this session!

- Rather than use a list from a publisher, I wanted to take this opportunity to try and share some great recently composed works.
- These are almost all piece I have programmed with a group, so these are ones that I think actually work IRL.
- It's all arbitrary, so I picked 15 years or newer.
- There is more great new literature! These are just some highlights.
- This is the reading session, so I would strongly encourage you to get out an instrument and play along with some of the recordings!

Why are there Grade 2 Selections

- I know this is the "high school" presentation, but I play a lot of grade 2.
- These works are great for my young students who need something to feel confident performing.
- I also program at least one work on each concert that everyone plays all together.

Brian Balmages - "Lullaby to the Moon" Grade 2 String Orchestra

- Beautiful melodies and harmonies
- Even the "easy" parts are enjoyable to play
- Opportunities for phrasing and shifting
- Ken Stotts really liked this one when the SVVSD teachers tried it out.

FJH Publishing 2015

Score and audio at JW Pepper

https://www.jwpepper.com/Lullaby-to-the-Moon/10512574.item#/

Kathryn Griesinger - "Wildfire" Grade 2 String Orchestra

- So much fun to dig in and play!
- Good variety of bow strokes
- Bass gets the melody! And some fun individualized accompaniments

- Female Composer

Kendor 2018 Female Composer

Audio and score on JW Pepper

https://www.jwpepper.com/Wildfire/10997841.item#/

Todd Parrish "Winter Solstice" Grade 2.5 String Orchestra

- A new secular winter tune
- Great viola melodies
- Everyone has something fun to play
- Good introduction for phrasing repeated/minimalist textures

Highland Etling 2010

Score and Audio recording on JW Pepper

https://www.jwpepper.com/Winter-Solstice/10092412.item#/

Doug Spata "Agincourt" <u>Grade 2.5</u> String Orchestra

- Mixed Meter
- Great viola feature
- Sounds harder than it is

Alfred 2007

Score and audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Agincourt/10026998.item#/

Susan Day "Spirit of Colorado" Grade 2.5 String Orchestra

- Beautiful Melodies
- Great connections to Colorado
- All instruments get something nice

Grand Mesa 2012 Colorado Composer Female Composer

Score and Audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Spirit-of-Colorado/10312096.item#/

Trad. arr. Gassi "Moon of Winter" Grade 2.5 String Orchestra, Glockenspiel

- A traditional Carol: The Huron Carol
- Even the bass has melodies
- Beautiful Harmonies
- Could be done without the bell part, but it adds a ton

Belwin 2011

Score and Audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/The-Moon-of-Winter/10280125.item#/submit

Cindy McTee "Shenandoah" Grade 3 Flute solo, violin solo, and string orchestra

- A beautiful arrangement of a classic
- Flute solo, with second flute or violin as a second solo, with string orchestra

Rondure 2011 Female Composer

Audio Recording of flute solo: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b58zGPbIFJY



Bars 1-3 and 45-51 borrowed from the second movement of Antonin Dvorak's Symphony No. 9.

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Lauren Bernofsky "Heart of Fire" Grade 3 String Orchestra

- Maybe just a 2.5
- Students find this fun
- They can really dig in and get it out
- Some good high 2/low 2 fast scales
- Time signature changes

FJH 2012 Female Composer

Score and audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Heart-of-Fire/10307183.item#/

Elena Kats-Chernin "Moon Feather Magic" Grade 3 String Orchestra

- Lyric, simple, elegant
- Explore emotive qualities
- Ms. Kats-Chernin has some great works for Quartet as well

Australian Music Centre 2018

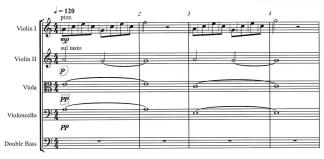
Australian Composer

Female Composer

Audio Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCf99iOITz8

Moon Feather Magic

ELENA KATS-CHERNIN



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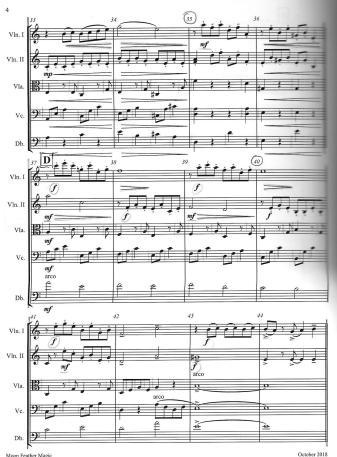




Moon Feather Magic

October 2018





Moon Feather Magic

Lunn arr. Wagner "Downton Abbey Suite: Grade 3 String or Full Orchestra

- Many students and parents still know this tune
- Even if they don't know it they will like it
- Works well for strings alone and full orchestra

Alfred 2010/2014

Score and audio at JW Pepper:

https://www.jwpepper.com/Downton-Abbey---The-Suite/10436314.item#/submit

Velazquez arr. Bratt "Besame Mucho" Grade 3 String Orchestra w/ rhythm

- A classic melody
- Latin stylings
- Opportunities for improvisation
- Bass part is simple, but does have chord symbols in second half so you can teaching more improvised bass lines

Strings Charts 2009 Latin Music Female Arranger Female Composer

https://www.jwpepper.com/Besame-Mucho-and-Song-for-My-Father/10079090.item#/submit

I couldn't find a great recording: https://youtu.be/fgDfe9i5CqE?t=2033

Bésame Mucho and Song for My Father

LATIN-JAZZ SONGS FOR STRING QUINTET

VIOLIN I

ARRANGED BY RENATA BRATT



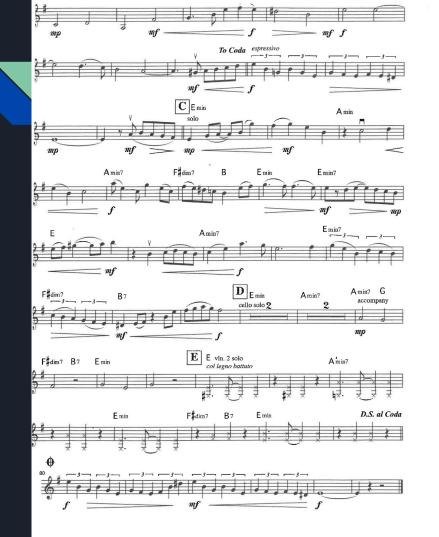
Bésame Mucho

OLIN I

Consuelo Velázquez, 1940 Arranged by Renata Bratt



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Song for My Father



Consuelo Velázquez, 1940 Arranged by Renata Bratt



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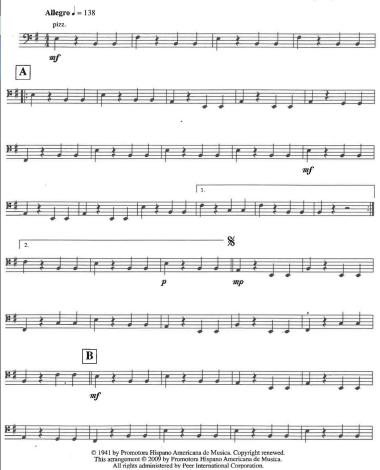
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Bésame Mucho

DUBLE BASS

Consuelo Velázquez, 1940 Arranged by Renata Bratt





Jobim & Olivera arr. Lewis "Dindi" Grade 3 String Orchestra w/rhythm

- A fun Latin Jazz fusion tune
- Unusual rhythms with changing subdivisions
- Bass line does not have as much to do :(

Ludwig 2016 Latin Jazz

Score and audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Dindi/10617950.item#/submit

Yukiko Nishimura "Water Reflections" Grade 3.5 String Orchestra

- Slow, fast, slow
- Rippling falling melodies mirror water
- The energetic middle section is refreshing and joyous

Fischer 2016 Japanese Composer Female Composer

Score and audio on JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Water-Reflections/10592952.item#/submit

Joshua Reznicow "Gates of Valhalla" Grade 3.5

- Programmatic work
- Great things for the basses to do
- Sound effects, interesting harmonies

Kendor 2017

Score and audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Gates-of-Valhalla/10752499.item#/submit

Tarik O'Regan "From Heaven Distilled a Clemency" Grade 3.5 String Orchestra and Chorus

- If you have been looking for a new Strings and Chorus work
- Driving rhythms balance with lush harmonies

Novello 2005

JW Pepper does not have audio or score

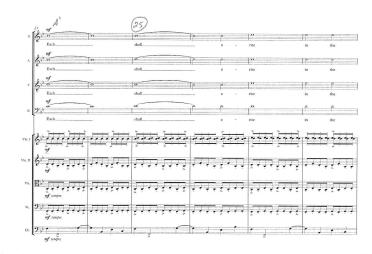
Audio Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgVE_bxeL6Q

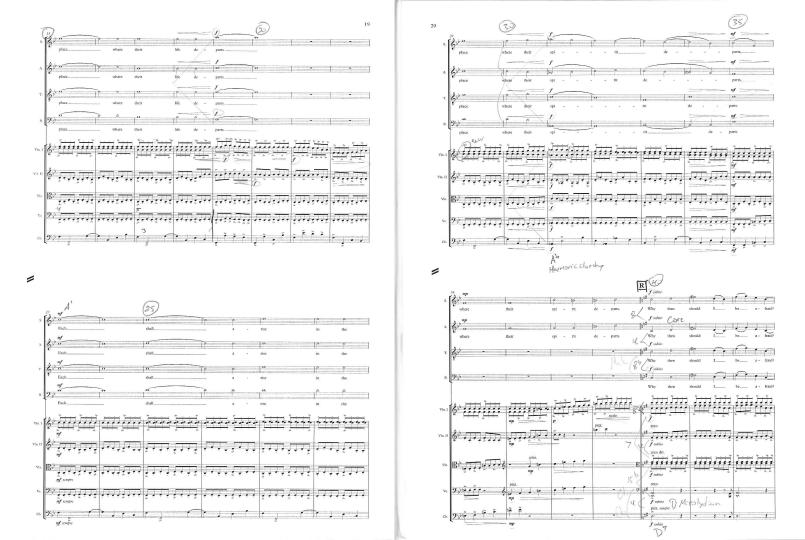
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Chris Pilsner "Taifu" Grade 4 String Orchestra

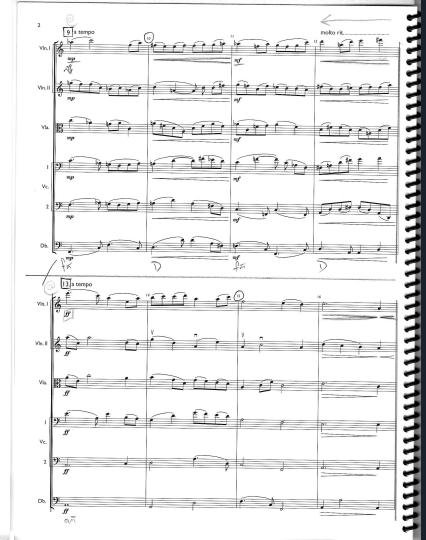
- Taifu is the Japanese word for Typhoon.
- Intense work
- Beautiful harmonies, fun rhythms
- Challenging, but worth it

Nox Tenebrae 2017 Colorado Composer

Audio recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvzMjkZ5oV0

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Steven Bryant "Dusk" Grade 4 Full Orchestra

- A gorgeous slow work depicting, you guessed it, a sunset at dusk.
- Good amount of percussion work to do
- Parts are overall well written. Some wide brass ranges.

Hal Leonard 2008

Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Dusk/10061238.item#/

Audio recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fj-vTFCxklQ



Eric Whitacre "Lux Aurumque" Grade 4 _____ Full Orchestra

 Originally for chorus, then Concert Band, then String Orchestra for rental only, and now for Full Orchestra for Sale

Hal Leonard 2015

Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Lux-Aurumque/10678236.item#/submit

Recording of string orchestra version: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWatPLfsjMc

Recording of band version: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MW1Hrpnf8i0



William Grant Still "Danzas de Panama" Grade 4, 3 String Orchestra, or Quartet

- Not "new" but should be played more
- A work comprised of 4 folk dances
- For String Orchestra, or String Quartet
- The first movement is harder than the others

Peer 1953

African American Composer

Parts at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Danzas-de-Panama/4967956.item#/submit

Audio recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D73V-7Klsjw

Danzas de Panama

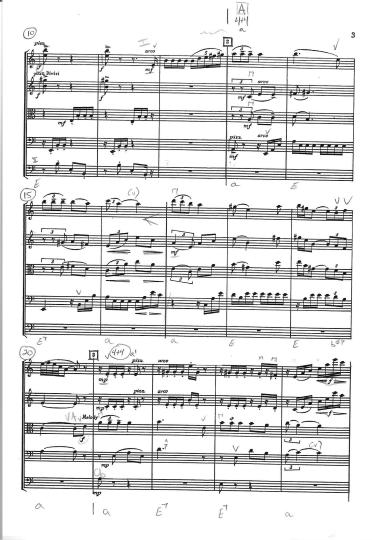
Based on Panamanian folk themes collected by Elisabeth Waldo





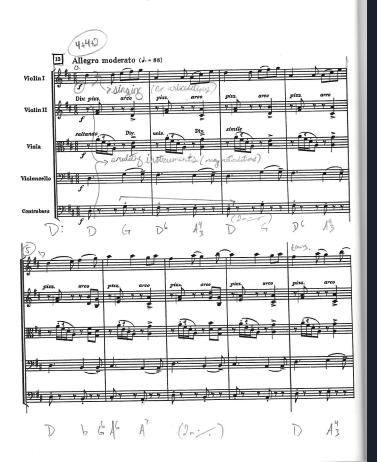
Note: When the term "Tap" appears, the instrument is to be tapped sonorously on its backwith the knuckles of the right hand.

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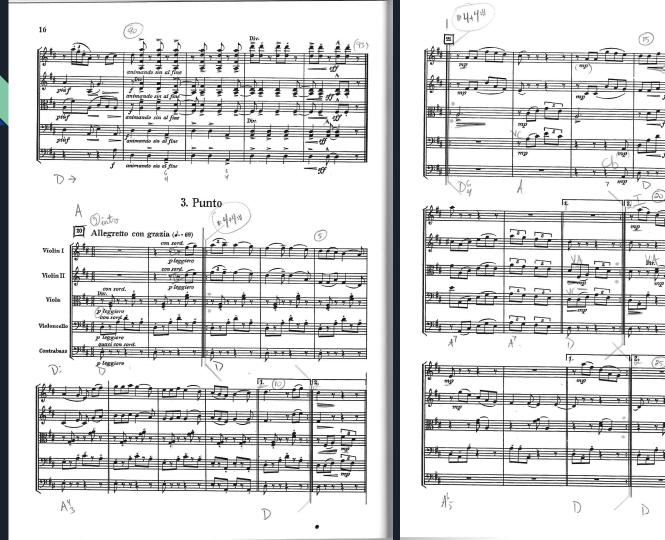




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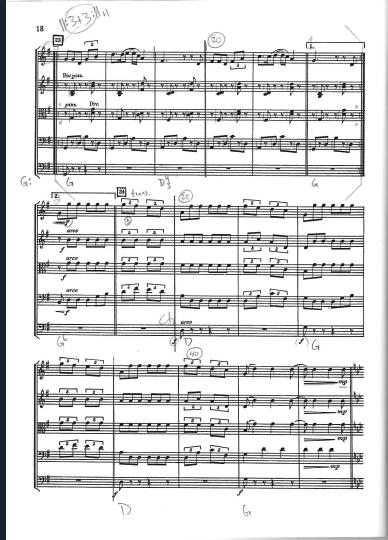






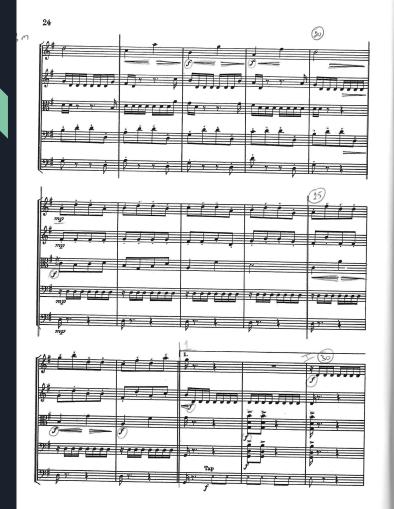
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4. Cumbia y Congo







Brian Balmages "Summer Dances" Grade 4.5

- Lots of fun 6/8 rhythmic play
- Some lydian passages
- Sounds harder than it is
- Some exposed wind and brass spots

Score and Audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Summer-Dances/10366880.item#/submit

Soon Hee Newbold "Fantasia Espanola" Grade 4.5 String Orchestra

- I don't know where to start: this piece is sooooo much fun!
- Several Spanish styles
- Beautiful Melodies
- Intricate rhythms, that are worth the practice time

Person of Color

Female Composer

Score and audio at JW Pepper: https://www.jwpepper.com/Fantasia-Espanola/2480774.item#/submit

Glazunov arr. McAlister "Russian Holiday Festival: I. Carolers" Grade 4.5 String Orchestra

- Originally for string quartet, composed as part of weekly festival music.
- Beautiful lyric writing
- Interesting phrase lengths
- Cello and bass have plenty to do

Ludwig 2008

Audio Sample: http://www.ludwigmasters.com/SoundFiles/MP3files/M8033.mp3

Score pdf: http://www.ludwigmasters.com/PDFFiles/PDFs/M8033efs.pdf

John Corigliano "Voyage" Grade 4.5 String Orchestra

- An incredible living Grammy, Pulitzer, and Oscar winning American composer
- Viola and violin solo opportunities
- Unusual harmonies
- Based on his choral work of the same name
- I know it is not a recent work, but one that I do not see being played, and I think is worth looking into.

Hal Leonard 1976

JW Pepper: no score, no audio

https://www.jwpepper.com/Voyage-for-String-Orchestra/4967634.item#/submit

Audio recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5rk1aFYINQ

Voyage for String Orchestra



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Voyage for String Orchestra



Voyage for String Orchestra



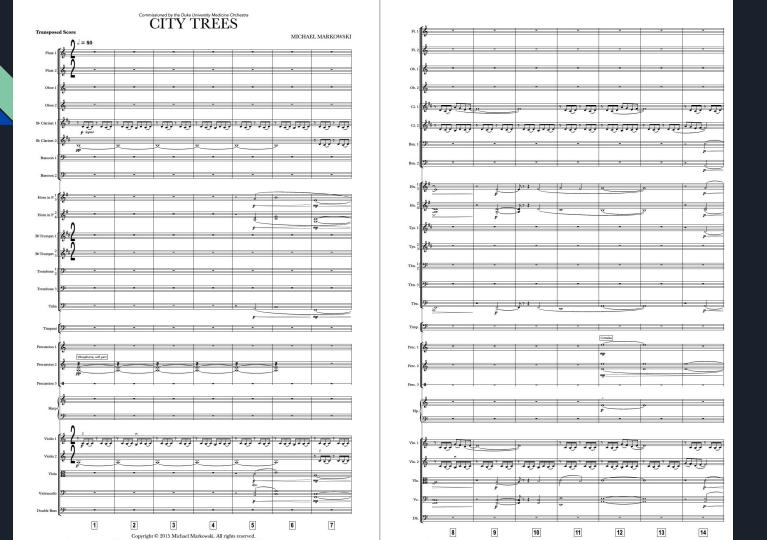
Michael Markowski "City Trees" Grade 5 Full Orchestra

- Challenging but lies well on the instruments
- Great passages for all instruments
- Plenty of Percussion

Markowski Music 2015

JW Pepper: No audio, no score. https://www.jwpepper.com/City-Trees/11131423.item#/submit

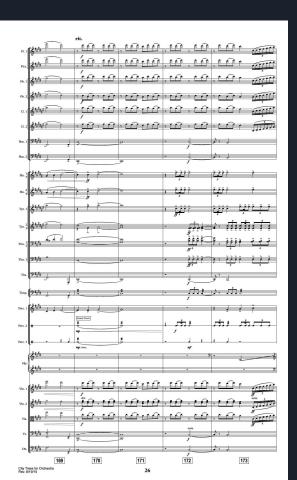
Concert Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGpHaS2_DF8





The Hard Part





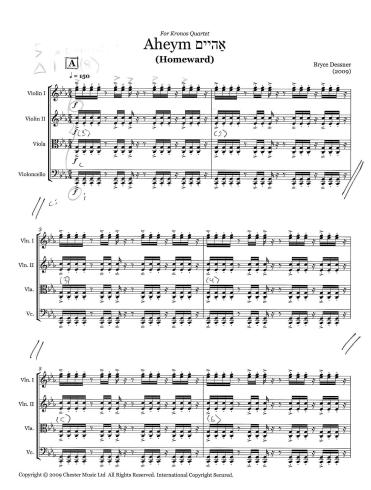
Bryce Dessner "Aheym" Grade 5 Quartet, or String Orchestra

- Originally for string quartet
- New version for String Orchestra is available for rental
- Really enjoyable to play
- Mixed meter, advanced techniques

Chester Music 2009

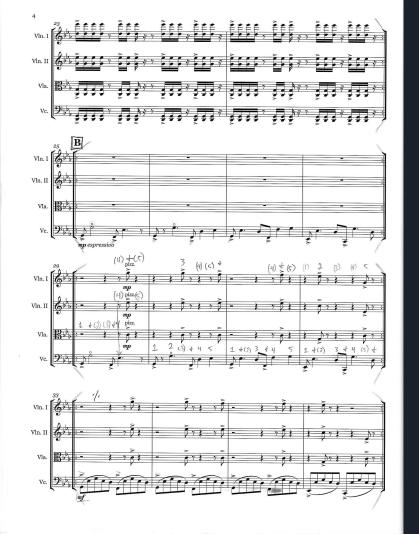
JW Pepper: No audio, no score https://www.jwpepper.com/Aheym/10527092.item#/submit

Youtube: Audio Recording https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcNzROh_P14



VIn. II Via. **Bit's**





I hope you found something useful!

Thank you for "attending"

Please contact me with any questions

RJStahly@gmail.com