Auld Lang Syne

Traditional Scottish
Arranged by SANDRA DACKOW

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor
8 1st Violin
8 2nd Violin
5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 String Bass
1 Piano Accompaniment
(Optional)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Originally the pentatonic air “I fe’d a lad at Michaelmas,” Auld Lang Syne, a folk song from Scotland, is a favorite for ringing in the New Year. It is also extremely popular in China, where it closes many gatherings and is known as “Friendship Forever.” People all over the world will recognize it. This arrangement is meant to be rich and full-sounding, even as it diminuendos towards the end. Please be precise about the dotted eighth rhythms. The pizzicato viola notes at the end are meant to sound like Westminster chimes ringing in the New Year. The popping cork noise at the end should sound like an afterthought and come as a surprise to the audience; it can be played by a corked popgun or a finger popped in someone’s cheek.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob Phillips
Belwin/Pop String Editor

Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.