

Spider Dance

MICHAEL HOPKINS

INSTRUMENTATION -

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

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Imagine the scenario—You have purchased a beautiful new dream home only to discover upon moving in that you are sharing the home with hundreds of spiders that emerge from the shadows each night at the stroke of midnight. Spiders of all shapes and sizes emerge from the cracks in the walls to dance to their eerie and spooky scherzo. These bloodthirsty arachnids do not crave human flesh—they just want to have fun!

The melody is based on a scale in broken thirds with each note doubled. The use of slash notation indicates to double each eighth note. Slash notation was commonly used in orchestral music of the 18th and 19th centuries and is important for students to learn to read. This is a great piece for teaching the key of G minor to a young orchestra. All the instruments get the melody. Double Basses get lots of interesting material and should be prominent at measure 50. Violins should begin trills on the written pitch and trill up diatonically (all trills are half step trills). The piece includes several poco rits and fermatas for your conducting enjoyment. I suggest stretching the tempo a bit more each time the music builds to a fermata. Try to find a 2nd violinist with a high-pitched voice for the solo at the end, and increase the tempo considerably for the last few bars of the piece. I hope you have as much fun playing this piece as I had writing it.

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



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CONDUCTOR SCORE

35920S

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*Trill diatonically in key. Begin trill on written pitch and trill up (all trills are 1/2 step trills). Fingerings marked are for written trill note.





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