

HEBRIDES OVERTURE

Felix Mendelssohn
Arranged by Jason Librande

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5

Finally for string orchestra! Mendelssohn's masterpiece requires skill in bow control, advanced rhythms, and dynamic range, making it a staple of full orchestra competition literature. Now string orchestras can enjoy this repertoire for contest or any concert performance. The creative use of ostinato and lyrical melodies are sure to captivate audiences and adjudicators alike as they hear the sounds and sights of the ocean represented in music.



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.

PROGRAM NOTES

Jakob Ludwig Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (usually referred to as Felix Mendelssohn) was born in Hamburg on February 3, 1809. From a young age, Mendelssohn showed great promise as a pianist and often performed recitals for distinguished family friends, of whom his father had many. It was here that he was also able to test out his skills at composition. He eventually went on to study composition with Carl Freidrich Zelter in 1817. Mendelssohn ended up becoming an extremely successful composer and wrote such masterworks as his “Violin Concerto in E minor,” incidental music to Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and “Hebrides Overture.” While Mendelssohn was touring Europe, he had a chance to visit a sea cave named Fingal’s Cave located on the Hebrides archipelago. Mendelssohn was profoundly moved by Fingal’s Cave. Naturally, the cave flooded with the sea. With this in mind, it is easy to hear the rhythmic pounding of the waves on the cello, the blending of tonal color to represent the scattered light in the cave, and all the wondrous sounds and sights of the ocean. Without a doubt, Mendelssohn was able to use his superb composition skills to paint a tonal picture of Fingal’s Cave.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

A challenging full orchestra piece has been translated into an equally challenging arrangement for string orchestra! Most notable is the large amount of bow control required by this piece. To alleviate this somewhat, instead of the whole-measure slurs in the original score, the slurs have been changed to half measures (viola, cello: m. 9; violin I: m. 21; violin II: m. 13; bass: m. 77). This will allow better dynamic control. On top of simply making sure that they don’t run out of bow, students must also be able to alternate strings within that slur (violin I: m. 21; violin II: m. 17; viola: m. 63; cello: m. 23). One exercise that may help is playing an octave scale in the same slurring pattern as is used in this piece. For example, a violinist would play the G on the G string, then the G on the D string and alternate between that for eight sixteenth notes. This would then be repeated on A on the G string and A on the D string and so on until reaching D, which would be played on the D and A strings. Complete a one-octave G Major scale and then proceed to all keys until proficient with alternating strings within slurs. One other thing of note is to make sure that students are obeying the markings within the piece, such as “First Stand” or “Solo.” These were added to simulate the creative woodwind work Mendelssohn does in this piece, such as the slow layering of woodwinds on top of the strings in the first six measures of the song. This section of the arrangement culminates in a tutti E minor chord in the violins.

Hebrides Overture

3

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 4:00

Felix Mendelssohn

Arranged by Jason Librande

Allegro moderato (♩ = 100)

First Stand

Two Stands (V)

Violins

I

II

Viola

Cello

String Bass

Vlns.

I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Tutti (■)

Tutti (■)

1 2 3 4 5 6

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Score for measures 7 and 8. The score includes parts for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked with a 'V' (Vivace). The dynamics are *f* (forte).

Measure 7: Violins I and II play a whole note chord (F#4, A4). Viola, Cello, and String Bass play a half note chord (F#3, A3). The Viola, Cello, and String Bass parts have a 'V' marking above the first measure.

Measure 8: Violins I and II play a whole note chord (F#4, A4). Viola, Cello, and String Bass play a half note chord (F#3, A3). The Viola, Cello, and String Bass parts have a 'V' marking above the first measure.

Score for measures 9 and 10. The score includes parts for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked with a 'V' (Vivace). The dynamics are *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano).

Measure 9: Violins I and II play a half note chord (F#4, A4). Viola, Cello, and String Bass play a half note chord (F#3, A3). The Viola, Cello, and String Bass parts have a 'V' marking above the first measure. The dynamics are *p* for Violins I and II, and *mp* for Viola, Cello, and String Bass.

Measure 10: Violins I and II play a half note chord (F#4, A4). Viola, Cello, and String Bass play a half note chord (F#3, A3). The Viola, Cello, and String Bass parts have a 'V' marking above the first measure. The dynamics are *p* for Violins I and II, and *mp* for Viola, Cello, and String Bass.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

11 12

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

13 14

sim.

Violins I
Violins II
Viola
Cello
String Bass

f *p*

15 16

Violins I
Violins II
Viola
Cello
String Bass

17 18

sim.

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

f *ff*

19 20

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

pp

(V)

21 22

23

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *p*

Str. Bass *p*

23 24

Vlns. I *p*

Vlns. II *p*

Vla. *p*

Cello

Str. Bass

Solo 0 1 2 3

25 26 27

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

28 29 30

Solo *p* 4

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

31 32 33

35 Tutti

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

34 35

p Tutti

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Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

36 37

(V)

V

V

V

V

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Score for measures 38 and 39. The score is for five parts: Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4.

Measure 38: Vlns. I and II play a rapid ascending scale starting on F#4, marked *ff*. Vla. plays a half note F#4, marked *ff*. Cello and Str. Bass play a half note F#3, marked *ff*. A *V* (Crescendo) hairpin is placed over the strings.

Measure 39: Vlns. I and II play a rapid descending scale starting on G#4, marked *pp*. Vla. plays a half note G#4, marked *pp*. Cello and Str. Bass play a half note G#3, marked *pp*. A *V* (Decrescendo) hairpin is placed over the strings.

Score for measures 40 and 41. The score is for five parts: Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4.

Measure 40: Vlns. I and II play a rapid ascending scale starting on F#4, marked *ff*. Vla. plays a half note F#4, marked *ff*. Cello and Str. Bass play a half note F#3, marked *ff*. A *V* (Crescendo) hairpin is placed over the strings.

Measure 41: Vlns. I and II play a rapid descending scale starting on G#4, marked *pp*. Vla. plays a half note G#4, marked *pp*. Cello and Str. Bass play a half note G#3, marked *pp*. A *V* (Decrescendo) hairpin is placed over the strings.

Score for measures 42 and 43, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Measure 42: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line marked *ff*. Vla. plays a low, sustained note marked *ff*. Cello and Str. Bass play a rhythmic pattern marked *ff*.

Measure 43: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line marked *p*. Vla. plays a low, sustained note marked *p*. Cello and Str. Bass play a rhythmic pattern marked *p*. A fermata is placed over the end of the measure.

42 43

Score for measures 44 and 45, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Measure 44: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line marked *pp*. Vla. plays a low, sustained note marked *pp*. Cello and Str. Bass play a rhythmic pattern marked *pp*.

Measure 45: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line marked *pp*. Vla. plays a low, sustained note marked *pp*. Cello and Str. Bass play a rhythmic pattern marked *pp*. A fermata is placed over the end of the measure.

44 45

47

Vlns.

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

46

47

Vlns.

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

48

49

I

Vlns.

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

50 51

This block contains the musical notation for measures 50 and 51. The instruments are Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

I

Vlns.

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

52 53

This block contains the musical notation for measures 52 and 53. The instruments are Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

54 55

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

56 57

mf

mf

pp

Score for measures 58 and 59, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Vlns. I & II: Violins I and II play a melodic line with accents and breath marks. Measure 58 starts with a half rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. Measure 59 continues with a half note B4, a quarter note C5, and a half note D5.

Vla.: Viola plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting in measure 58, marked *p* (piano).

Cello: Cello plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting in measure 58, marked *p* (piano).

Str. Bass: String Bass plays a simple bass line with a half note G2 in measure 58 and a half note F2 in measure 59.

Score for measures 60 and 61, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Vlns. I & II: Violins I and II play a melodic line with accents and breath marks. Measure 60 starts with a half rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. Measure 61 continues with a half note B4, a quarter note C5, and a half note D5.

Vla.: Viola plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting in measure 60, marked *p* (piano).

Cello: Cello plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting in measure 60, marked *p* (piano).

Str. Bass: String Bass plays a simple bass line with a half note G2 in measure 60 and a half note F2 in measure 61.

Score for measures 62 and 63, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Violins (Vlns.): Part I and II. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 62-63), *p* (measure 63). Includes accents (>) and slurs.

Viola (Vla.): Part I. Dynamics: *mf* (measure 62), *p* (measure 63). Includes slurs.

Cello: Part I. Dynamics: *mf* (measure 62), *p* (measure 63). Includes slurs and a sharp sign (#).

Str. Bass: Part I. Dynamics: *mf* (measure 62), *p* (measure 63). Includes slurs.

Measure numbers 62 and 63 are indicated below the staves.

Score for measures 64 and 65, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Violins (Vlns.): Part I and II. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 64-65), *p* (measure 65). Includes accents (>) and slurs.

Viola (Vla.): Part I. Dynamics: *mf* (measure 64), *p* (measure 65). Includes slurs.

Cello: Part I. Dynamics: *mf* (measure 64), *p* (measure 65). Includes slurs and a sharp sign (#).

Str. Bass: Part I. Dynamics: *mf* (measure 64), *p* (measure 65). Includes slurs.

Measure numbers 64 and 65 are indicated below the staves.

Score for measures 66-70, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 66-70:

- Vlns. I & II:** *mp dolce* (measures 66-69), *pp* (measure 70).
- Vla.:** *p* (measures 66-69), *pp* (measure 70).
- Cello:** *p* (measures 66-69), *pp* (measure 70).
- Str. Bass:** *p* (measures 66-69), *pp* (measure 70).

Measures 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70 are indicated at the bottom of the staves.

Score for measures 71-74, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 71-74:

- Vlns. I & II:** *poco a poco cresc.* (measures 71-74).
- Vla.:** *poco a poco cresc.* (measures 71-74).
- Cello:** *poco a poco cresc.* (measures 71-74).
- Str. Bass:** *poco a poco cresc.* (measures 71-74).

Measures 71, 72, 73, and 74 are indicated at the bottom of the staves.

Score for measures 75 and 76, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 75 and 76 show a transition from a triplet pattern in measure 75 to a more complex, ascending melodic line in measure 76. The dynamics are marked *f* (forte) in measure 76.

Violins (Vlns.) I and II play a melodic line starting in measure 76. The Viola (Vla.) and Cello play a triplet pattern in measure 75, which transitions into a more complex, ascending melodic line in measure 76. The String Bass (Str. Bass) plays a simple, rhythmic pattern in measure 75, which transitions into a more complex, ascending melodic line in measure 76.

Score for measures 77 and 78, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 77 and 78 show a continuation of the melodic line from measure 76. The dynamics are marked *ff* (fortissimo) in measure 77. The Viola (Vla.) and Cello play a triplet pattern in measure 77, which transitions into a more complex, ascending melodic line in measure 78. The String Bass (Str. Bass) plays a simple, rhythmic pattern in measure 77, which transitions into a more complex, ascending melodic line in measure 78.

Violins (Vlns.) I and II play a melodic line starting in measure 77. The Viola (Vla.) and Cello play a triplet pattern in measure 77, which transitions into a more complex, ascending melodic line in measure 78. The String Bass (Str. Bass) plays a simple, rhythmic pattern in measure 77, which transitions into a more complex, ascending melodic line in measure 78.

non div.

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

79 80

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

81 82

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

83

84

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

85

86

89

Vlns.

I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

87

88

89

detache

ff

detache

ff

detache

ff

detache

ff

detache

ff

Vlns.

I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

90

91

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

92 93 94

ff

ff

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Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

95 96 97 98

p

p

mp

p

p

96

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