



Planets in Motion

VICTOR LÓPEZ (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

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

PROGRAM NOTES

The title of this piece is derived from Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion. Johannes Kepler tried to use mathematics to prove that the planets orbit around the sun. Using the observations made by his employer, Tycho Brahe, Kepler found that planets travel around the sun in oval-shaped orbits called ellipses and that they move faster when they are closer to the sun. He also did work related to the time it takes for a planet to complete an orbit around the sun. The composer of this work sees the students as planets in orbit, moving faster when being schooled and creating knowledge with time.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Using the first few notes presented in most beginning string methods and no eighth notes, this original piece will make your beginning ensemble sound very advanced. Solid scoring and doubling throughout will help groups with incomplete instrumentation sound well-balanced.

Work on balance throughout. All notes are to be played long. Make sure that the dynamic levels are followed correctly. At rehearsal number 22, there is a very simple syncopation figure in the 1st violin part. Although beats 2 and 4 are accented, they should not be overemphasized. At measures 26–29 and 34–35, bring out the cello and bass. Everyone should strive to hear the bass line. Check intonation throughout, specifically in the cello and bass parts, which are written in octaves.

I know that *Planets in Motion* will be a favorite this year and leave a lasting impression with your young players.

Victor Lopez

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

Planets in Motion

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 1:45

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Moderately (♩ = 116)

Violins
I
II

Viola (Violin III)

Cello

String Bass

f 1 2 3 4

Vlns.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

5 4

mf 5 6 7 8

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

9 10 11 12

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

13 14 15 16

I
Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

17 18 19 20

21

I
Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

mp *f* *mp*

21 22 23 24

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

f

25 26 27 28

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

29 30 31 32

I
Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

f

f

f

f

f

33 34 35 36

37

I
Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

37 38 39 40

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

41 42 43 44

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 41 through 44. It features five staves: Violins I, Violins II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

45

f *f* *f* *f* *f*

V V V V

45 46 47 48 49

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 45 through 49. It features five staves: Violins I, Violins II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music consists of quarter and eighth notes. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte) and *V* (accents). A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

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