# Winterfest

Featuring Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming, The Holly and the Ivy, and Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light

TRADITIONAL Arranged by VICTOR LÓPEZ (ASCAP)

## — INSTRUMENTATION —

- 1 Conductor
- 8 1st Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

Winterfest features three very popular hymns. First introduced is "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," a Christmas carol of German origin. This hymn first appeared in print in the late 16th century, and the Michael Praetorius (1571–1621) harmonization, written in the German Protestant chorale style, is still the version most heard.

The second hymn introduced is "The Holly and the Ivy," which dates back to the seventeenth century. Holly and ivy have symbolized different things over time, from the original pagan festivities of the Winter Solstice, to emerging as an homage to Jesus Christ and his Virgin birth.

The third and last hymn is "Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light" from *The Christmas Oratorio* and adapted by J.S. Bach (1685–1750). Bach composed the oratorio for the Christmas season of 1734 and incorporated music from earlier compositions.

#### **NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR**

This medley is a true holiday treat. It features "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," "The Holly and the Ivy," and "Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light" in a lovely setting. All three selections are introduced in different settings and have intricate sounding variations. All instruments have very playable and interesting parts throughout, which should not be a challenge to rehearse and perform.

A great collection of Christmas carols that will complete your winter program!



#### **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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