Three Lyric Pieces

From *Opus 38* including "Berceuse," "Elegy," and "Halling"

EDVARD GRIEG
Arranged by STEVEN H. BROOK

INSTRUMENTATION

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

How do you capture the spirit and soul of a people? Grieg has done just that, with melodic beauty and harmonic richness evoking images of the Norwegian way of life, and the rugged splendor of the countryside. Three selections from *Book II, Opus 38* include: "Berceuse," a gently rocking lullaby, with a restless middle section; "Elegy," a reflective movement, full of melancholy and longing; and "Halling," a lively rhythmic type of folk dance, traditionally performed by young men at weddings and parties, featuring acrobatic and athletic competition between dancers. Lush harmony and a strong rhythmic feel were very important to Grieg and both will shine in this piece. Your students can connect with the master and the people of his homeland, as he reveals some of his deepest and most intimate feelings.

PROGRAM NOTES

Edvard Grieg (1843–1907), Norway's most famous musical son, once commented that, "The traditional way of life of the Norwegian people, together with Norway's legends, history, and natural scenery, stamped itself on my creative imagination from my earliest years." Many of these impressions were captured in his *Lyric Pieces*—66 short character pieces, each with a distinct Norwegian flavor. Published in ten books between 1867 and 1901, these works form a sort of poetic musical diary of Grieg's life.

As a schoolboy, Grieg was exceedingly unhappy, often suffering torment and abuse from his fellow students. Today, we call it "bullying." Even as an adult, he often received criticism and snide remarks from the more "knowledgeable" composers and music critics. And yet, in the late 19th century, emanating from virtually every household across the Western world, were the *Lyric Pieces*. His music resonated with the masses, and is well loved to this day because it speaks to the inner person.

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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Belwin ORCHESTRA
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CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 2:15, 2:00, 0:45
Total - 5:00

Edvard Grieg
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I. BERCEUSE, Op. 38, No. 1

Allegretto tranquillo (♩ = 92)

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II. ELEGY, Op. 38, No. 6

Allegretto semplice (♩ = 80)

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III. HALLING, Op. 38, No. 4

Allegro marcato (♩ = 108)

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