Concerto for Strings

RV 158, Mvt. 3

ANTONIO VIVALDI Arranged by JAN FARRAR-ROYCE

— INSTRUMENTATION —

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

PROGRAM NOTES

From his earliest career, Antonio Vivaldi was known as much for being an excellent violinist as he was for being a composer. His *Concerto for Strings* brings out the technical daring of the shy, red-headed priest, who was the string teacher and conductor of the Conservatorio dell'spedale della Pietà (Devout Hospital of Mercy), a girls' orphanage in Venice.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The piece truly is a challenge for every section, with parts that are aerobic in their constant motion, leaps across the strings, and seemingly careless bow usage. And yet, each part fits in the players' hand more easily than it may seem at first glance. After only a few slower playthroughs, *Concerto for Strings* could become your ensemble's favorite piece to play!

Of particular interest is the use of the an up-bow accent on the minor second beats that unexpectedly pop up again and again, beginning with measures 24 and 27. My ensemble used to love to visibly lean into those notes to emphasize their somewhat sinister quality!

This piece has as much enjoyment for the ensemble performing it as it does for the audience who will, no doubt, be bouncing along to the beat!

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.

Belwin/Pop String Editor



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CONDUCTOR SCORE Duration - 3:45

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