

Based on a theme from *The Children's Album, Op. 39, No. 16*

# OLD FRENCH MELODY

Mes belles amourettes

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Arranged by Robert Sieving

## INSTRUMENTATION

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

Based upon Tchaikovsky's setting, with an added middle section in parallel major, this arrangement of "Old French Melody" from *Children's album, Op. 39* is quickly accessible. It features half position for string bass, first positions in all other sections, and interesting parts for middle voices. A teaching opportunity to explore parallel minor and major is also presented.

## PROGRAM NOTES

Tchaikovsky's *Children's album, Op. 39*, fulfilled an intention he had had for some time to complete a set of piano pieces for children to play, rather than merely listen to. Consisting of 24 separate pieces—all quite short (some of them less than a minute in length)—the entire set is playable in about half an hour. No. 16, usually titled "Old French Melody," is actually an arrangement of the folksong, "Mes belles amourettes."



# Old French Melody

Mes belles amourettes

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 3:00

By Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Arranged by Robert Sieving (ASCAP)

Andantino (♩ = 66)

Violins

Viola

Cello

String Bass

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score is for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is Andantino with a quarter note equal to 66 beats per minute. The music begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Viola part includes a *div.* (divisi) instruction. The String Bass part includes a *p* dynamic and a *V* (vibrato) instruction. A large red watermark 'Preview Only! Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

Vlms.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Musical score for measures 6-11. The score is for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The music continues with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Viola part includes a *div.* (divisi) instruction. The Cello part includes a *p* dynamic. The String Bass part includes a *p* dynamic. The score includes performance markings: *rit.* (ritardando) and *div.* (divisi). A large red watermark 'Preview Only! Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

13  
A tempo

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

12 13 14 15 16 17

rit. A tempo 21

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

18 19 20 21 22 23



37 A tempo

Vlns. I *pp* poco a poco cresc.

Vlns. II *pp* poco a poco cresc.

Vla. *pp* poco a poco cresc.

Cello *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Str. Bass *p* poco a poco cresc.

36 37 38 39 40 41

47

Vlns. I *mp* *p* *pp* *p*

Vlns. II *mp* *p* *pp* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p* *pp* *p*

Cello *f* *p* *pp*

Str. Bass *mp* *p* *pp*

rit. Più Lento (♩ = 52)

42 43 44 45 46 47

**Vlns. I**

**Vlns. II**

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

*mf*

*p*

*div.*

*rit.*

48 49 50 51 52 53

**Vlns. I**

**Vlns. II**

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

**55**

*A tempo*

*p*

*div.*

54 55 56 57 58 59

63

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

rit.

Tempo I

1

2 1

1

4 3 2

V

p

60 61 62 63 64 65

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

rit.

-1 2

-2 -4

66 67 68 69 70 71

72 A tempo

**Vlns. I**

**Vlns. II**

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

*p* *pp* *p* *mp*

72 73 74 75 76 77 78

**Vlns. I**

**Vlns. II**

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

**Tempo II**

*p* *pp* *p* *pp*

*rit.* *div.*

79 80 81 82 83 84