



Dance of the Red Dragons

Michael Hopkins

INSTRUMENTATION

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

This lively $\frac{2}{4}$ meter piece is set in the keys of G major and E minor. All sections pass around the melody while energetic rhythms highlight the countermelody and accompaniment parts. This great festival or concert selection will make your orchestra sound rich and mature.

PROGRAM NOTES

Dance of the Red Dragons was commissioned by Erin Little for a May 2018 festival performance by the Derby Middle School orchestras, Birmingham, MI. The title refers to the school's mascot, which is the Welsh Dragon that appears on the national flag of Wales.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The piece is lively in $\frac{2}{4}$ meter, set in G major/E minor. The melodic material gets passed around through all sections in the orchestra. The cellos and basses introduce the melody, which should be played with a crisp articulation and some separation. After the melody is introduced in all the sections, a transition leads to the E minor section at m. 89. The first theme is developed and joined by a legato countermelody, first played by the violin 2 and viola sections in m. 117.

The violin 2 and viola parts are playable in first position. The recap at m. 182 features the melody in third position for the violin 1 section. The double bass part requires shifting to third position, with one shift to fourth position, and one shift to half position.

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

Dance of the Red Dragons

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 4:00

By Michael Hopkins

Allegro (♩ = 120)

pizz.
non div.

Violins

Viola
(Violin III)

Cello

String Bass

1 2 3 4 5 6

Vlms.

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

arco

pizz.
non div.

7 8 9 10 11 12

Score for measures 13 to 18, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 13-18 show a rhythmic pattern in the Violins and Viola, with the Cello and String Bass providing a steady bass line. The Viola part includes a *pizz. non div.* instruction in measure 15.

Measures 13 14 15 16 17 18

Score for measures 19 to 24, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 19-24 continue the rhythmic pattern. The Viola part includes a *pizz. non div.* instruction in measure 21 and an *arco* instruction in measure 23. The String Bass part includes a *pizz.* instruction in measure 23.

Measures 19 20 21 22 23 24

25

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

ff

ff

non div.

25 26 27 28 29 30

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

31 32 33 34 35 36

Score for measures 37-42, featuring Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, and Str. Bass.

Measures 37-42 show a rhythmic pattern in the strings, with Vlns. I and II playing eighth notes and Vln. III, Cello, and Str. Bass playing quarter notes. Measure 39 includes fingerings 1, 2, 3 for the Cello and 1, -1 for the Str. Bass. Measure 40 includes a dynamic marking *f*.

37 38 39 40 41 42

Score for measures 43-48, featuring Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, and Str. Bass.

Measures 43-48 show a continuation of the rhythmic pattern, with Vlns. I and II playing eighth notes and Vln. III, Cello, and Str. Bass playing quarter notes. Measure 43 includes a dynamic marking *f*. Measure 44 includes a dynamic marking *f*. Measure 45 includes a dynamic marking *f*. Measure 46 includes a dynamic marking *f*. Measure 47 includes a dynamic marking *f*. Measure 48 includes a dynamic marking *f*.

43 44 45 46 47 48

Score for Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 49-54.

Violins I and II, Viola, and Cello start at *mf* (mezzo-forte). String Bass starts at *mf*. Dynamics change to *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measure 53.

Violins I and II have accents (>) on notes in measures 49-52. Viola and Cello have accents (>) on notes in measures 49-52. String Bass has a pizzicato (pizz.) marking in measure 54.

Measures 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54.

Score for Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 55-60.

Violins I and II start at *pp* (pianissimo). Viola and Cello start at *mp* (mezzo-piano). String Bass starts at *pp*. Dynamics change to *mp* in measure 56.

Violins I and II have accents (>) on notes in measures 55-57. Viola and Cello have accents (>) on notes in measures 55-57. String Bass has a pizzicato (pizz.) marking in measure 60.

Measures 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60.

Str. Bass

Vlins.

Vla.
(**Vln. III**)

Cello

Str. Bass

73

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

73 74 75 76 77 78

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

79 80 81 82 83 84

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

arco

89

Vlns. I *mf*

Vlns. II *mf* *f* pizz.

Vla. (Vln. III) *mf* *f* pizz.

Cello *mf* *f*

Str. Bass *mf* *f*

85 86 87 88 89 90

Vlns. I pizz. *mf* *mp* *p*

Vlns. II *mp* *p*

Vla. (Vln. III) *mp* *p*

Cello *mp*

Str. Bass *mp*

91 92 93 94 95 96

I

Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

p

p

97 98 99 100 101 102

arco

3

I

Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

103 104 105 106 107 108

arco

105

pizz.

pizz.

V

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla. (Vln. III)
 Cello
 Str. Bass

109 110 111 112 113 114

div.
V
V
-3
2
1
-1

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla. (Vln. III)
 Cello
 Str. Bass

115 116 117 118 119 120

mf
mf legato
mf legato
mf
arco
arco
arco
-3
-4
-4
mf

Score for measures 121-126, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 121-126 are marked with the word *legato*.

Measures 121-126 are numbered below the staff.

Score for measures 127-132, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Measures 127-132 are numbered below the staff.

133 4

Vlns.
I *f* *non div.*
II *f*

Vla. (Vln. III)
div. *f*

Cello
f

Str. Bass
f

133 134 135 136 137 138

Vlns.
I *div.*
II

Vla. (Vln. III)
div.

Cello

Str. Bass

139 140 141 142 143 144

149

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

145 146 147 148 149 150

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

f *mf* *ff*

151 152 153 154 155 156

Vlns.
I
II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

p

div.

p

p

p

157 158 159 160 161 162

Vlns.
I
II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

163 164 165 166 167 168

16

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

169 170 171 172 173

p

div.

p

p

p

174

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

174 175 176 177 178 179

f

pizz.

f

non div.

f

pizz.

f

pizz.

f

arco

182

Vlns.
I
II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

arco

arco

180 181 182 183 184 185

Vlns.
I
II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

div

186 187 188 189 190 191

18

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

192 193 194 195 196 197

198 199 200 201 202 203 204

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Score for measures 205 to 210. The score is for five parts: Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings *f* and *div.* (divisi). Measure numbers 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, and 210 are indicated below the staff.



Score for measures 211 to 216. The score is for five parts: Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *cresc.* (crescendo). Measure numbers 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, and 216 are indicated below the staff.



Score for Violins (Vlns. I & II), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass) from measures 217 to 223.

Violins (Vlns. I & II): Melodic lines in treble clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 217-218), *cresc.* (measures 219-221), *f* (measures 222-223). Fingering: -2 (measures 219, 221).

Viola (Vln. III): Melodic line in alto clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 217-218), *cresc.* (measures 219-221), *f* (measures 222-223). Fingering: V (measures 219, 221).

Cello: Melodic line in bass clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 217-218), *cresc.* (measures 219-221), *f* (measures 222-223). Fingering: V (measures 219, 221).

Str. Bass: Melodic line in bass clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 217-218), *cresc.* (measures 219-221), *f* (measures 222-223). Fingering: -1 (measure 217), V (measures 219, 221), -4 (measure 220).

Measures: 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223.

Score for Violins (Vlns. I & II), Viola (Vln. III), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass) from measures 224 to 229.

Violins (Vlns. I & II): Melodic lines in treble clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 224-225), *cresc.* (measures 226-228), *f* (measures 229).

Viola (Vln. III): Melodic line in alto clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 224-225), *cresc.* (measures 226-228), *f* (measures 229).

Cello: Melodic line in bass clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 224-225), *cresc.* (measures 226-228), *f* (measures 229). Fingering: x4 (measure 226), 2 (measure 228).

Str. Bass: Melodic line in bass clef, key of D major. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 224-225), *cresc.* (measures 226-228), *f* (measures 229).

Measures: 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229.

230

Vlns. I *ff*

Vlns. II *ff*

Vla. (Vln. III) *ff*

Cello *ff*

Str. Bass *ff*

230 231 232 233 234 235

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

236 237 238 239 240