



A Ralph Vaughan Williams Portrait

Featuring Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis, A Sea Symphony (Symphony No. 1), Linden Lea, and Overture to "The Wasps" (Astrophanic Suite)

Ralph Vaughan Williams
Arranged by Douglas E. Wagner (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor
 - 8 1st Violin
 - 8 2nd Violin
 - 5 Viola
 - 5 Cello
 - 5 String Bass
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This arrangement is a wonderful introduction to the music of Vaughan Williams. Interesting melodies, beautiful orchestrations, and smooth transitions will help your orchestra create an artistic performance. Perfect for both festivals and concerts, this piece is an excellent finale to any performance.

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

PROGRAM NOTES

The music of Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958) represents the height of English Post-Romanticism—a time when a fervent nationalistic spirit took pride of place in music, led by a corresponding surge of interest in discovering, preserving, and performing traditional folk music—a movement of which Vaughan Williams was a vital force. As can be heard, the elements of folk tunes greatly influenced and shaped the composer's early creative period, though most often with no direct quotes. This musical montage of some of the most popular works of Vaughan Williams includes the following (in performance order):

Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis, 1910:

Scored for double string orchestra and solo string quartet, the work is based on Thomas Tallis's Third Mode Melody. The somber opening introduction and theme begin this medley.

A Sea Symphony (Symphony No. 1), 1909:

The dramatic poetry of Walt Whitman forms the essence of this major choral work in symphonic form. The excerpt included here is the "big tune" *Largamente* from the third movement, which supports the words: "Where the great vessel sailing and tackling displaced the surface, larger and smaller waves in the spread of the ocean yearnfully flowing, the wake of the seaship after she passes, flashing and frolicsome under the sun."

Linden Lea, 1901

Subtitled "A Dorset Folk Song," this was the first published work of Vaughan Williams, an original vocal setting of words by the English poet and cleric William Barnes, whose picturesque verse often depicts English country life. The first verse begins: "Within the woodlands flowery gladed, by the oak tree's mossy moot, the shining grass blades timber shaded, now do quiver under foot."

Overture to "The Wasps" (from *Aristophanic Suite in Five Movements*), 1909:

Written as incidental music to the Aristophanes satirical play, *The Wasps*, for a Cambridge University production, Vaughan Williams later organized the musical material into a five-movement suite. Although the listener will hear compositional techniques (tremolos and repeated eighth-note motives) that programmatically are suggestive of the title, the theatrical work itself bears no direct association with the insects, only the characters on stage who seem to model their behavior.

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Featuring Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis, A Sea Symphony (Symphony No. 1),
Linden Lea, and Overture to "The Wasps" (Aristophanic Suite)

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 3:45

By Ralph Vaughan Williams

Arranged by Douglas E. Wagner (ASCAP)

"Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis"
Solemnly (♩ = 66)

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score is for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4, which changes to 3/4 at measure 3. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *p* (piano). A box containing the number 5 is located above the first staff at the beginning of measure 5. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-4. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 6-10. The score is for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *p* (piano). Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-4. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 11-15. The score is for five instruments: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamic marking is *mf*. Measure 13 has a fingering of 13 and a -1. Measure 13 also has a -4. Measure 13 has a *mf* dynamic marking.

Musical score for measures 16-20. The score is for five instruments: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamic marking is *mf*. Measure 16 has a -2. Measure 18 has a 1. Measure 18 has a *mf* dynamic marking.

accel.

Vlns. I
Vlns. II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass

21 22 23 24

25 "A Sea Symphony (Symphony No. 1)"
Majestically (♩ = 92)

Vlns. I
Vlns. II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass

25 26 27 28 29

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

30 31 32 33 34

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

35 36 37 38 39

div.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mp *f*

40 41 42 43 44

45

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

45 46 47 48 49

div. -3 rit. mp

I Vlns. II Vla. Cello Str. Bass

1 -3 -4 mp

50 51 52 53 54

“Linden Lea” Easily (♩ = 69) 56 -3

I Vlns. II Vla. Cello Str. Bass

V -2 -1 -3

55 56 57 58 59

64

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

60 61 62 63 64

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

65 66 67 68 69

-1 rit.

"Overture to 'The Wasps' (Aristophanic Suite)"

71 Lively (♩ = 108)

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

70 71 72 73 74 75

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of a musical score for measures 70 through 75. It features five staves: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked 'Lively' with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The dynamic is 'f' (forte). Measure 70 shows the beginning of the section. Measures 71-72 contain a melodic line in the violins and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower strings. Measures 73-75 continue the melodic development with various articulations like accents and slurs. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

76 77 78 79 80

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of a musical score for measures 76 through 80. It features the same five staves as the first system. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The dynamic is 'f'. Measure 76 continues the melodic line. Measures 77-79 show a more active melodic line in the violins with various articulations. Measure 80 concludes the section with a final melodic phrase. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

81

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

81 82 83 84 85 86

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

87 88 89 90 91 92

89

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

93 94 95 96 97 98

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of a musical score, covering measures 93 to 98. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The Violin I staff has a fermata over the first measure and a -1 fingering above the second measure. The Viola staff has a 9 fingering above the first measure. The String Bass staff has -1, 4, -2, and 1 fingerings above measures 94, 95, 96, and 97 respectively. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

99 100 101 102 103 104

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of a musical score, covering measures 99 to 104. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The Violin II staff has a fermata over the first measure. The Viola and Cello staves have a 9 fingering above the first measure. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

105

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

sim.

sim.

-1

div.

-2

105 106 107 108 109 110

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

div.

ff

ff

ff

ff

(V)

(V)

(V)

(V)

(V)

111 112 113 114 115 116 117