ABERRATIONS

By Anthony Granata (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score	
Violin I	3
Violin II	8
Viola	
Cello	
String Bass	

Aberrations is an exciting contemporary work with constant changing of time signature, rhythmic intensity, modern harmonies, and variety of counterpoint. The title refers to the frequent changes of the time signature, requiring musicians to move in and out of \S , \S , and \S . The double fugue and abundance of contrapuntal interplay make this a thrilling and challenging piece for your advanced orchestras. Students will love the driving accented A minor motif, the layered rich legato countermelodies, and the forceful coda.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

- The accented A minor motif should be played loud and into the string by the first violins, while the accompaniment in the Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass should have space between the notes.
- Make sure the change from \S to \S is exaggerated and that the students are feeling the accents differently (1–2–3 4–5–6 versus 1+ 2+ 3+).
- The legato melody first introduced by the cellos and basses at m. 25 should be the main focus. When the accented A minor motif returns, it should be beneath this new main melody. Have the students feel the differences between § and ¾ time, especially when the two time signatures are used simultaneously.
- Measures 41 through 57 should be especially dramatic. Work on using full bow lengths and emphasizing the differences between this style and the accented A minor motif.
- At m. 57, there are two subjects that are introduced for the double fugue: subject one by the 2nd violins and subject two by the cellos. While the violins are melodically important, the cellos' offbeat rhythms should be played into the string with intensity. These two subjects are counteracted by the return of the legato melody from m. 25.
- Practice transitioning from m. 72 to the Da Capo and making sure it is seamless.
- For the coda, make sure students begin at an appropriate dynamic that allows them to build to a climactic and fortissimo finish.

Note from the Editor

In orchestral music, there are many editorial markings that are open for interpretation. In an effort to maintain consistency and clarity you may find some of these markings in this piece. In general, markings for fingerings, bowing patterns, and other items will only be marked with their initial appearance. For a more detailed explanation of our editorial markings, please download the free PDF at www.alfred.com/stringeditorial.

X - 9 (b), (\sharp) , (\sharp) \sqcap \cap \cap \vee \vee extended position shift bow lift/reset high or low fingerings hooked bowings

I hope you will find these explanations to be helpful. Best wishes with all of your musical endeavors!



Chris M. BernotasDirector of String Publications





Aberrations

FULL SCORE Duration - 2:40

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¬ **sf** 15

16

Str. Bass

13

14













