


Dance of the Bowless Basses

String Bass Section Feature

By Bob Phillips (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Full Score	Educational Packs
8 Violin I	1 Violin
8 Violin II	1 Viola
5 Viola	1 Cello
3 Violin III (Viola )	1 String Bass
5 Cello	
5 String Bass	
1 Piano Accompaniment	

PROGRAM NOTES

A cute, pedagogically-based (get it?), first-year bass section feature, this piece will be fun and make your beginners sound fabulous. This piece is in first position for all players except basses. Basses shift up to C and D on the G string and only play pizzicato. Continuing Bob Phillips' tradition of bass section features, *Dance of the Bowless Basses* is sure to become an integral part of your standard repertoire.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The bass part is to be played pizzicato throughout. Several times the basses play a percussive sound (indicated by × noteheads) by tapping the top of the instrument with the finger pads of the right hand. There is enough time to reposition the hand for plucking. Have the bass players leave their left hand in position while tapping. The final note of the piece should be played *fff* by the basses.

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
extended position

-
shift

'
bow lift/reset

(b), (#), (q)
high or low fingerings

▣▣ or V V
hooked bowings

Dedicated to the Hudsonville, MI Bass Section, Class of 2027

Dance of the Bowless Bases

String Bass Section Feature

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FULL SCORE
Duration - 2:00

Lively ♩ = 110

Violins
I
II

Viola (Violin III)

Cello

String Bass

Piano Accompaniment (Optional)

Lively ♩ = 110

1 2 3 4

Vlns.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass
* Tap top
pizz. sim.

Pno. Accomp.

5 6 7 8

* Tap top with the pads of your right-hand fingers.

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Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

9

10

11

12

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

13

13

13

14

15

16

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

17 18 19 20

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 17 through 20. It features six staves: Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, and Piano Accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Violin I and II parts play a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The Viola part follows a similar pattern. The Cello part has a few notes, including a dynamic marking 'p' and a 'V' above it. The String Bass part plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Piano Accompaniment part consists of chords and single notes in both hands.

21
I
Vlns.
II
Vla.
(Vln. III)
Cello
Str. Bass
Pno.
Accomp.

21 22 23 24

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 21 through 24. It features the same six staves as the previous block. The key signature remains one sharp (F#). The Violin I and II parts are marked 'pizz.' and 'mf'. The Viola part is also marked 'pizz.' and 'mf'. The Cello part is marked 'pizz.' and 'mf'. The String Bass part continues with a steady eighth-note rhythm. The Piano Accompaniment part is marked 'mf' and features a consistent chordal accompaniment.

arco

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

pp

pp

pp

f

pp

25 26 27 28

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

mf

mf

mf

29 30 31 32

33

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

mf

mf

mf

33 34 35 36

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

arco

f

f

f

arco

f

arco

f

4

1

-1

f

37 38 39 40

41

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

f

41 42 43 44

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp.

45 46 47 48

49

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello *arco*

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp. *ff*

49 50 51 52

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass *Twirl bass once*

53 54 55 56