Danse

From African Suite

By Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Arranged by Kirk Moss

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Full Score
- 8 Violin I
- 8 Violin II
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- 1 Piano Accompaniment

PROGRAM NOTES

Best known for his serious choral masterpiece, "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast," Black British composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875–1912) also wrote in a lighter style. Inspired by Paul Laurence Dunbar, the celebrated African-American poet whom the composer knew and admired, *Danse [Africain]* from *African Suite* sounds like a rousing overture evocative of Broadway musicals of a later era.

Born in suburban London to Alice Martin, an Englishwoman and the daughter of a blacksmith, his father, Dr. Daniel Peter Hughes Taylor, was a Creole of Sierra Leone who qualified as a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons (MRCS) and returned to Africa before his son's birth. Called Coleridge by his family, he was raised in Croydon, Surrey, by his mother and her father, Benjamin Holmans, who taught him the violin.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Consider performing the staccato eighth notes with a spiccato, or brushed, bow stroke and the accented quarter notes with a martelé bow stroke. To practice spiccato, martelé, and other bow stokes, see *Sound Innovations: Sound Development Intermediate* (Alfred Music).

Repeated eighth notes with dots have been marked $\forall \forall$ to achieve the feeling of a dance. Play eighth notes without dots legato and bow them as they come. In measures 26, 28, and 30, play the cello and bass parts with a left hand pizzicato, marked with a plus sign (+). This technique will provide a smooth transition from pizzicato to arco.

For more challenging African-inspired repertoire, try *Jambo: Greeting Prelude* (pronounced jahm-boh), another Kirk Moss string orchestra arrangement from Alfred Music.

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 – (b), (b), (b), (b) $\neg \neg \lor \lor$ extended position shift bow lift/reset high or low fingerings hooked bowings





Danse



















