



Celestial Collisions

By Di3n Morales

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Full Score
- 8 Violin I
- 8 Violin II
- 5 Violin III (Viola ♩)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass

PROGRAM NOTES

Celestial Collisions was inspired by composer Di3n Morales' love for *Star Wars*! The piece begins with a powerful rhythmic motif that pulls you into a story where danger lurks at every moment as sinister factions across the stars collide in the hopes of rising to power, gaining control, and bending the galaxy to their will. Our brave heroes fight for loved ones past and present in a struggle to bring peace to their worlds. Can our heroes survive? Will they find allies to join the fight? And will the universe finally find peace after these *Celestial Collisions*...?

Celestial Collisions was commissioned by the John Hersey High School Orchestra for their 2024 Pizza-cato Festival. An event where the middle school feeders and high school together come together to celebrate the strong connections between these programs through the power of music, teamwork, and, of course, pizza.

Special thanks to all the students and directors:

John Hersey High School Orchestra, directed by Christopher Kuzmanoff

MacArthur Middle School Orchestra, directed by Izabella Gieron

Music for Youth, directed by Tamara Glassburg

River Trails Middle School Orchestra, directed by Jonathan Luk

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The opening 16th-note motif, and each time it comes back, should be played starting at the balance point. Make sure that all lifts in this section return to the balance point. At measure 28, really let the low string dig in on the accented half notes. Make it menacing!

Dynamic contrast is extremely important, especially in the transitional section where the most dramatic changes happen. To help measure 50 really sparkle, there must be a noticeable dynamic and change when coming out of measure 49. Also, make sure that the upper strings are playing the marcato section so that the woody tone of the G and D strings comes out.

At measure 80, for the *fp*, have the players emphasize this using lots of bow speed at the beginning of the note while still saving a little to sustain the note softly. The ending of this piece is perfect for a dramatic bow lift. Pull through the final half note fully, give the release, and on the release have all players lift.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

In orchestral music, editorial markings are often open to interpretation. We make every effort to provide consistent bowings, fingerings, and other markings that are specifically tailored to the grade level of the music. In general, these technical markings are provided only at their initial appearance. This pedagogical approach is designed to encourage students to recognize recurring patterns and foster musical independence, rather than relying on redundant markings throughout the music.

Celestial Collisions

FULL SCORE
Duration - 3:10

By Dión Morales (ASCAP)

With energy ♩ = 142

Violins I
Violins II
Viola (Violin III)
Cello
String Bass

mf

1 2 3

This block contains the first three measures of the score for the Violins I, Violins II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and String Bass parts. The music is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 142 beats per minute. The dynamic is marked *mf*. The score includes a large red watermark that reads "Preview Requires Purchase".

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

ff

4 5 6

This block contains measures 4, 5, and 6 of the score for the Violins I, Violins II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and String Bass parts. The dynamic is marked *ff*. The score includes a large red watermark that reads "Preview Requires Purchase".

I Vlns. *mf*

II Vlns. *mf*

Vla. (Vln. III) *mf*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass *mf*

7 8 9

I Vlns. *ff* *mp* *f*

II Vlns. *ff* *mp* *f*

Vla. (Vln. III) *ff* *mp* *f*

Cello *ff* *mp* *f* x4

Str. Bass *ff* *mp* *f*

10 11 12 13

Musical score for measures 14-17. The score is for five instruments: Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and String Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. Measures 14 and 15 feature a crescendo leading to a forte (*f*) dynamic in measures 16 and 17. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the violins and viola play melodic lines with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 14, 15, 16, and 17 are printed below the staves.

Musical score for measures 18-21. The score is for five instruments: Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and String Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. Measures 18 and 19 feature a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic in measures 20 and 21. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the violins and viola play melodic lines with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 18, 19, 20, and 21 are printed below the staves.

24

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

mf

22 23 24

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

25 26 27

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

28 29 30

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

31 32 33 34

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

35 36 37

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

38 39 40 41

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

42 43 44 45

mf
mf

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

46 47 48 49

f *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp*
f *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp*
f *mf* *mp* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp*
ff *f* *mf* *mp*
ff *f* *mf* *mp*

50 Marcato

Vlns. I *f* *mf*

Vlns. II *f* *mf*

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

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

50 51 52 53

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. (Vln. III) *f*

Cello

Str. Bass

54 55 56 57

I
Vlns. *ff* *f*

II
Vlns. *ff* *f*

Vla. (Vln. III)
f *ff*

Cello
f *ff*

Str. Bass
f *ff*

58 59 60 61

I
Vlns. *mf*

II
Vlns. *mf*

Vla. (Vln. III)
mf

Cello
mf

Str. Bass
mf

62 63 64 65

I
Vlns. *p* *f* 68

II
p *f*

Vla. (Vln. III)
p *f* 4

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

66 67 68 69

I
Vlns. *f*

II
f

Vla. (Vln. III)
f 4

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

70 71 72 73

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

74 75 76 77

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

4

V

-1

V

4

V

V

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

78 79 80 81

fp *fp* *mf*

fp *fp* *mf*

fp *fp* *mf*

fp *fp* *mf*

fp *fp* *mf*

fp *fp* *mf*

80

2

V

V

V

V

I
Vlns. *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

II
ff *mf* *ff* *mf*

Vla. (Vln. III)
ff *mf* *ff* *mf*

Cello
ff *mf* *ff* *mf*

Str. Bass
ff *mf* *ff* *mf*

82 83 84 85

I
Vlns. *ff*

II
ff

Vla. (Vln. III)
ff

Cello
ff

Str. Bass
ff

86 87 88

Musical score for measures 89-91. The score is for five parts: Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 89 shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Measure 90 features a dynamic change from *f* to *mf*. Measure 91 features a dynamic change from *mf* to *mp* and includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Vlns. II part. A large red watermark is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 92-95. The score is for five parts: Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 92 starts with a boxed measure number 92 and a dynamic of *f*. Measure 93 continues the melodic lines. Measure 94 features a dynamic of *f* and a fermata over the final note. Measure 95 features a dynamic of *f* and a fermata over the final note. A large red watermark is overlaid on the score.

I
Vlns. *f*

II
Vlns. *f*

Vla. (Vln. III)
f

Cello

Str. Bass

96 97 98 99

I
Vlns. *ff*

II
Vlns. *ff*

Vla. (Vln. III)
ff

Cello
ff

Str. Bass
ff

100 101 102 103

104

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

104 105 106 107

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

ff *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff*

108 109 110 111 112

3 1 -1 div. 4