

STRING THANG

FOR SOLO VIOLIN

with Optional Rock Rhythm Section

MARK WOOD

String Thang is based on a musical form called the twelve-bar blues. The blues has deep roots in American history; it developed out of the work songs and chants of African-American slaves. The Great Migration of the first half of the 20th century saw freed slaves and their descendants move to northern and eastern parts of the U.S., taking their music with them. The blues took on different forms; in turn it helped to create rock, jazz, hip-hop, and other popular genres.

A twelve-bar blues uses a repeating chord progression which allows musicians to express themselves creatively with each recurrence.

If anything defines the blues it is the use of “blue notes”—pitches that don’t usually belong in a given key—and elements of improvisation. *String Thang* uses both blue notes in the main tune and the solo violin’s part, as well as improvisational principles in the solo.

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String Thang

ADVANCED SOLO VIOLIN

By Mark Wood

Rockin' allegro ♩ = 124

The musical score is written for a solo violin in the key of E major (indicated by four sharps) and 4/4 time. The tempo is 'Rockin' allegro' with a quarter note equal to 124 beats per minute. The score consists of nine staves of music, numbered 1 through 29. It features various musical notations including triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). There are also performance instructions like 'Shout: Hey! Hey! Hey!' and 'V' (vibrato). Chord diagrams for E, A, and B are provided at the beginning of several staves. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4, and bowings are indicated by '0' and '-1'.