



**Belwin**

**STRING ORCHESTRA BEGINNING LEVEL**

# **TANGENTS FOR STRINGS**

**For String Orchestra With Piano**

ROBERT W. SMITH (ASCAP)

## **INSTRUMENTATION**

1	Conductor
10	1st Violin
5	Optional Violin (Viola T.C.)
5	Viola
5	Cello
5	String Bass
1	Piano

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

Tangents are defined as lines touching but not intersecting, as well as sudden digressions or changes of course. Using long, flowing melodic lines that move over or under an aggressive rhythmic ostinato, the composer has created a unique musical collage of tangent musical lines. Some lines are horizontal, some vertical. Each section of the string orchestra is given the opportunity to contribute a melodic line ultimately leading to an exciting full ensemble conclusion.

## **NOTE TO THE CONDUCTOR**

“Tangents for Strings” was written as an opportunity to teach the staccato style. The bowings are not necessarily conventional but are edited to provide maximum support to the melodic and harmonic intent *at the tempo indicated*. Some minor adjustments to bowings may be necessary in the beginning stages of preparation as the ensemble works toward the rather brisk tempo of 144. The work offers an opportunity to introduce alternate bowing options relative to the musical requirements of the composition. Please note the tenuto markings, which indicate a long bow stroke in contrast to the staccato figures.

I hope you, your ensemble, and your audience find “Tangents for Strings” to be an exciting and rewarding work. Best wishes for a great performance!

*Robert W. Smith*

**Please note:** Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order. We hope this will not present any difficulty for you in distributing the parts. Thank you for your understanding.



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CONDUCTOR

# TANGENTS FOR STRINGS

For String Orchestra with Piano

ROBERT W. SMITH (ASCAP)  
ROBERT D. McCASHIN String Editor

Aggressive! ♩ = 144

Violin

Viola

Cello

String Bass

Piano

1 2 3 4

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

5 6 7 8

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Conductor - 2

11

Musical score for measures 9-11. The score is for a conductor's part, showing five staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, Str. Bass, and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measure 9 shows the beginning of the section. Measure 10 continues the melodic lines. Measure 11 features a dynamic marking of *mf* and a *legato* instruction for the Cello and Str. Bass parts. The Piano part provides a steady accompaniment with eighth notes.

Musical score for measures 12-14. The score continues with the same five staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, Str. Bass, and Piano (Pno.). Measure 12 shows the continuation of the melodic lines. Measure 13 continues the accompaniment. Measure 14 features a dynamic marking of *p* and a *legato* instruction for the Cello and Str. Bass parts. The Piano part continues with eighth notes.

Conductor - 3

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

15 16 17

This block contains the musical notation for measures 15, 16, and 17. It features five staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, String Bass (Str. Bass), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The Violin part has a melodic line with eighth notes. The Viola part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Cello and String Bass parts play sustained notes with long slurs. The Piano part has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes in both hands.

19

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

18 19 20

This block contains the musical notation for measures 18, 19, and 20. It features five staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, String Bass (Str. Bass), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The Violin part continues with a melodic line. The Viola part continues with eighth notes. The Cello and String Bass parts have slurs and accents (marked with 'v') over their notes. The Piano part continues with its eighth-note accompaniment.

Conductor - 4

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

21 22 23

This block contains the musical notation for measures 21, 22, and 23. It features five staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, String Bass (Str. Bass), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Violin and Viola parts have melodic lines with eighth and quarter notes. The Cello and String Bass parts play sustained notes with slurs and accents. The Piano part has a steady accompaniment of eighth notes in both hands. Measure numbers 21, 22, and 23 are printed below the piano staff.

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

24 25 26

This block contains the musical notation for measures 24, 25, and 26. It features five staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, String Bass (Str. Bass), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Violin and Viola parts continue their melodic lines. The Cello and String Bass parts play sustained notes with slurs and accents, with the notes in measures 25 and 26 marked with '(V)'. The Piano part continues its accompaniment. Measure numbers 24, 25, and 26 are printed below the piano staff.



Conductor - 6

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

34 35 36

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 34, 35, and 36. It features five staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, String Bass (Str. Bass), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Violin and Viola parts play a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The Cello part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The String Bass part plays a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. The Piano part provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands. A 'V' marking is present above the Cello staff in measure 35.

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

37 38 39 40

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 37, 38, 39, and 40. It features the same five staves as the previous block. The Violin and Viola parts continue their melodic lines, with some phrasing slurs. The Cello part maintains its eighth-note accompaniment. The String Bass part continues its rhythmic pattern. The Piano part provides harmonic support. 'V' markings are present above the Cello staff in measures 38 and 39.



Conductor - 7

41

Musical score for measures 41-43. The score includes parts for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, Str. Bass, and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a melodic line in the upper strings and a rhythmic accompaniment in the piano and lower strings. Measure 43 includes a 'V' marking above the Cello staff.

44

Musical score for measures 44-46. The score includes parts for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, Str. Bass, and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music continues with similar melodic and rhythmic patterns as the previous section.

Conductor - 8

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

47 48 49

51

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

50 51 52

*mp* *cresc. poco a poco*

*mp* *cresc. poco a poco*

*mp* *cresc. poco a poco*

*mp* *cresc. poco a poco*

Conductor - 9

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

53 54 55 56

This block contains the musical score for measures 53 through 56. It includes staves for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, String Bass (Str. Bass), and Piano (Pno.). The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The string parts have various rhythmic patterns, including quarter and eighth notes.

Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.

57 58 59 60

*f* *ff* *opt. div.*

This block contains the musical score for measures 57 through 60. It includes staves for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, String Bass (Str. Bass), and Piano (Pno.). The music continues from the previous section. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). The piano part has a more active right hand with chords and eighth notes. The string parts feature accents and some dynamic changes. A marking "opt. div." is present above the violin staff in measure 59.

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