

GROUNDHOG'S REVENGE

SETH GAMBA

FOR STRING ORCHESTRA

Full Score

Instrumentation

1 Full Score
8 Violin 1
8 Violin 2
5 Viola
5 Violoncello
5 Double Bass

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PUBLICATIONS

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About the Composer

Seth Gamba is currently the orchestra director at Elkins Pointe Middle School in Fulton County, Georgia, and the electric violinist in the rock band The Expats. He is well-known as a composer and adjudicator, having given presentations at the state and national level on topics including teaching rhythm, double bass pedagogy, and teaching class guitar. Mr. Gamba's orchestra has been featured at state conferences, and his compositions have frequently been performed at the annual GMEA conference. He currently has two compositions on the GMEA approved list for level 3 orchestra. His rhythm exercises are available on CD-ROM from LudwigMasters for classroom presentation: Rhythm Projections: Rhythm Exercises for Building Mastery (#50099001).

Seth Gamba grew up in Cobb County, Georgia, where he began playing the bass in the 6th grade public school orchestra. He is a graduate of Walton High School, and earned his bachelor's degree from Indiana University, where he studied with Larry Hurst, with a double major in Double Bass and Civics. He has a Master of Music Education degree from the University of Georgia.

Performance Notes/ Teaching Suggestions

Get ready for a bluegrass battle! You thought you got rid of that pesky groundhog, but he's back and tearin' things up again. It's upper strings against lower strings as everyone gets a turn playing fun and exciting themes. Using the G pentatonic scale, parts are easily approachable for all instruments. Use the included theme sheets to learn the more challenging parts as unison exercises to keep everyone involved and maximize instructional time. Even though all of the included themes don't show up in every part, when students know each other's parts they listen to each other better come together as a tighter group in the end. For some added flair directors can add some finger slides and talk about accent patterns for an authentic bluegrass style.

GROUNDHOG'S REVENGE

3

Allegro (♩ = 120-126)

5 Seth Gamba

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

f

f

f

f

f

mf

mf

pizz.

6

12

13

18

21

24

arco

29

mf

mf

f

f

f

34

37

Measures 34-37 of a musical score. The score is written for five staves: two treble staves (top two) and three bass staves (bottom three). The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measures 34 and 35 show the beginning of a melodic line in the treble staves, with the right hand playing a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 36 and 37 continue this line, with the right hand playing a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staves provide a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

39

Measures 39-44 of a musical score. The score is written for five staves: two treble staves (top two) and three bass staves (bottom three). The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measures 39 and 40 show the beginning of a melodic line in the treble staves, with the right hand playing a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 41 and 42 continue this line, with the right hand playing a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staves provide a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

45

mp

Measures 45-50 of a musical score. The score is written for five staves: two treble staves (top two) and three bass staves (bottom three). The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measures 45 and 46 show the beginning of a melodic line in the treble staves, with the right hand playing a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 47 and 48 continue this line, with the right hand playing a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staves provide a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

53

50

f

57

56

pizz.

f

65

62

arco

68

7

73

f

pizz.

pizz.

7

79

81

arco

arco

7

More Music for String Orchestra

FULL ENSEMBLE WORKS

BLACKWOOD, MICHAEL

50250129 Rogue's Revenge (Grade 1.5)

An E minor driving rock beat and two sets of parts will allow you to combine absolute beginners and second year students with great success. The easier parts are all high 2s, simple rhythms, and use limited range. Advanced parts use 4th fingers, high and low 2s, and have some longer note values for developing counting skills. Adding a drumset helps keep the ensemble together.

CHAMINADE, CECILE

Levin, Andrew

50250143 Danse Creole (Grade 4)

This charming dance features translucent harmony as only Chaminade can write. There are dramatic moments of rubato that will force your group to grow musically. There is a need for some skill in bowing and a good deal of chromaticism along with some extended range.

GRAINGER, PERCY ALDRIDGE

Longfield, Robert

50250068 Three Movements from Lincolnshire Posy (Grade 3)

Long a staple of wind band literature, Lincolnshire Posy has never been set for any other medium. Robert Longfield has crafted this stunning arrangement for strings that has all of the Grainger style and spirit.

GRIESINGER, KATHRYN

50250105 Popcorn (Grade 1)

No bows required! This unison pizzicato piece for beginning strings and piano is perfect for the very first concert. Using only quarter rests and quarter notes of the D major scale, the upbeat tune gives students the chance to "pop" up out of their chairs in the middle section of the work. A delightful treat for young musicians and audiences alike!

KOLLER, INGRID

50250144 Adeste Fiddles (Grade 1.5)

A traditional carol with a distinctly non-traditional approach! Some old-time fiddling figures combine with the carol in a comfortable key of D major. Easy parts for violin, viola, and violoncello allow students who haven't advanced to extensions perform with success.

PACHELBEL, JOHANN

Svendsen, Johan Severin

52250498 First Finger Pachelbel (Grade 1)

REZNICOW, JOSHUA

52250538 American Sketches (Grade 4)

52250372 Eclipse (Grade 2)

50250133 Phantom's Night: Legends Of Cuba Road (Grade 2.5)

Perfect for your Halloween concert, this spooky piece in G minor has a good bit of divisi in the violins. There are two cello parts, one that shifts and one that does not. Special effects such as glissandi and tremolo abound, including heavy accents and easy double stops. Basses use half position extensively and there are many chromatic notes in all sections -- plus a cello solo!

ROSENHAUS, STEVEN

50250137 Tangled Tango (Grade 2)

Don't get your fingers tangled in the chromatic fingerings! Alternating arco and pizzicato makes things even more interesting (plus some hooked bowings for the fun of it). Everyone gets the melody, with the exception of the basses, who are kept occupied laying down the tango groove.

SAINT SAENS, CAMILLE

Hall, Percy

50250003 Danse Macabre (Grade 3)

There are very few cuts made in this eerie, phantasmal tour de force. At least two solo violinists are needed because of unusual tuning. Be ready for a frightened audience!

SANZ, GASPAR

Longfield, Robert

50250109 Canarios (Grade 2.5)

The guitar music of Gaspar Sanz retains its popularity to this day. This particular excerpt crackles with rhythmic vitality and a fascinating use of hemiola.

SEITZ, PAUL

52250362 Iowa Spring (Grade 2)

SHARP, THOM

50250080 Fiddle Faddle Hoedown (Grade 1)

Your first year players will fiddle their hearts out with this foot-stomper from Thom Sharp.

SMETANA, BEDRICH

Walters, Harold L.

50250071 The Moldau (Grade 3)

Smetana's epic My Country was exceeded in popularity only by his opera The Bartered Bride. The second of the six symphonic poems in the work describes the course of the Moldau River from its beginnings as two springs to its ends as a majestic and mighty river.

SVENDSEN, R. ANNE

52250338 Arpeggio Antics (Grade 1.5)

52250346 First Finger Suite (Grade 1)

50250087 Tango Por Uno (Grade 2.5)

An open string/first finger masterpiece, this work focuses on the tango rhythm and stretching that low first finger. Harmonically, there is some lovely, shocking dissonance -- just like a real tango!

TCHAIKOVSKY, PETER

Longfield, Robert

50250013 Nutcracker: Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy (Grade 2)

Every holiday concert needs music from Tchaikovsky's immortal ballet, The Nutcracker. Robert Longfield's masterful transcription brings Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy into the range of grade 2 string orchestras. The celesta part has been made more 'user friendly,' having been scored for piano but can be played on celesta if one is available. The March and Waltz of the Flowers have also been adapted for use by your string orchestra.

50250014 Waltz of the Flowers (Grade 2)

As with the other Longfield arrangements from The Nutcracker, the piano adds much support to the string orchestra. The beloved Tchaikovsky melody will allow your group to 'sing' with their best tones. The March and Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy are published separately. A classic you'll come back to time and again.

VIVALDI, ANTONIO

Frackenpohl, Steven

10250063 Allegro in D for Strings (Grade 3)

One of Ludwig's all-time best sellers, teachers and students love this work.

WOODRUFF, BUD

50250145 Cedar Hollow (Grade 1.5)

Cedar Hollow is a small valley in the Ozarks. This work captures the essence and tranquility of the area. The optional harp part will enhance the ensemble wonderfully if used, while skillful writing makes the work playable with no shifting.

SOLO STRINGS WITH ENSEMBLE

HEWSON, DAVID G.

Latham, Lynne

54260001 Baroque Fantastique (Grade 3)

An intense, 16th-note driven homage to the baroque with a thrilling solo cello part which ventures into thumb position. Reminiscent of Palladio from the diamond commercial. Orchestra grade 3; solo grade 4½.

MCMICHAEL, CATHERINE

50260005 Esperance (Hope) (Grade 3)

Esperance (Hope) ventures into the realm of French impressionism, with luscious, thick harmonies and colorful orchestration for strings and harp. An easy grade 3 for strings, it allows your harp soloist to shine through.

MIXED INSTRUMENT(S)/ VOICE(S) WITH ENSEMBLE

SHARP, THOM

50250098 Kitchen Poltergeist (Grade 2)

You can add percussionists to your orchestra. Just give them a couple wooden spoons and step back! That's because anyone can play kitchen utensils in this spooky, imaginative offering from Thom Sharp.

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