

PUPPET THEATER

DAVID BOBROWITZ

For STRING ORCHESTRA and PIANO

Full Score

Instrumentation

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

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About the Composer

David Bobrowitz received his Bachelor of Science degree from the Mannes College of Music, majoring in Trombone Performance under Simon Karasick. He went on to Teachers College, Columbia University, where he earned a Masters Degree in Music Education. He studied composition independently under the tutelage of Robert Russell Bennett.

Mr. Bobrowitz has been a freelance bass trombonist, pianist, composer, and arranger in the New York area for more than 30 years. He retired from the Great Neck Public Schools in June, 2000, and now resides outside of Richmond, Virginia. Mr. Bobrowitz continues to be in demand as a performer, composer, and arranger.

Program Notes

Puppet theater has a long and varied history with evidence that it even existed in ancient China. Puppet shows still exist today, and it can be said that the tremendous popularity of the Muppets of Sesame Street is a direct derivative. Musically the piece is an entertaining tribute to the skilled artists who made the puppets come to life for children of all ages. As typical of any Bobrowitz piece, there is important material for all. Each part, whether playing *pizzicato* or *arco*, gets its turn at playing melodic material, which will motivate students to want to play this piece often. Lively, and somewhat whimsical in nature, it's fun to listen to, and fun to play!

Performance Notes

Set the tempo at a moderately fast pace without a sense of rushing. It is important to note that the piano part is integral and not just a mirror of the string parts. Make sure the students get full value accents at bars 9 and 10. Emphasize that there are important dynamic differences throughout the piece and work on a clear difference between *piano*, *mezzo-piano*, *mezzo-forte*, or *forte*. Work the students so that they follow the beat for the *ritard* at bars 49 - 50, and then catch the *a tempo* at bar 51. It is important to make a nice *diminuendo* in bar 62 and a contrasting *piano* at measure 63 followed by a firm *mezzo-forte* the last bar.

Puppet Theater

Moderately fast $\text{♩} = 112$

David Bobrowitz (BMI)

Violin 1 *pizz.* *mp* *arco* *L2*

Violin 2 *pizz.* *mp* *arco*

Viola *pizz.* *mp* *arco*

Violoncello *pizz.* *mp*

Double Bass *pizz.* *mp*

Piano *mp*

6 9

pizz. *mf* *mp*

pizz. *mf* *mp*

pizz. *mp* *mf* *mp*

mf *mp* *p*