

A Day in Mykonos

David Bobrowitz
(b. 1945)

for STRING ORCHESTRA

Full Score

Instrumentation

1 Full Score
8 Violin 1A/ 1B
8 Violin 2
5 Viola
5 Violoncello
5 Double Bass

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PUBLICATIONS

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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

Mykonos is a Greek island lying off the country's East Coast in the Aegean Sea. The island is famous for tourism, and it's widely known for its lovely beaches, vibrant nightlife, and interesting architecture. *A Day in Mykonos* is a compact, rhythm-driven concert piece evoking Mediterranean dance. The piece is in D minor and incorporates Greek musical influence throughout, using modal inflection, patterned rhythms and tempo acceleration. Great as an opening or closing piece with its catchy melody and toe-tapping energy!

Performance Notes

Mykonos is a Greek island lying between 4 other islands, Syros, Tinos, Paros and Naxos. The 2021 census found that there were 10,704 residents who lived mostly on the West Coast of the island. The major industry in Mykonos is tourism, and it's widely known for its lovely beaches, vibrant nightlife, and interesting architecture.

Musically the piece is in D minor, with the minor tonality being typical for Greek music. For the opening tempo, a relaxed quarter equaling 88 is ideal. A four-bar intro gives way to the A1 section starting at bar 5. Bar 27 starts a derivation of the A theme (A2), which is different in the first few measures. The cellos carry the melodic material of the B section which starts at bar 48. Measure 62 is a return to the A1, followed by a brief *pizzicato* section at 80, which then leads us once again to the A1 at bar 94. The ending should gradually add tempo, so bar 102 is quarter equals 92, and then bar 112 is quarter equals 100. I hope you enjoy your day in Mykonos!

Editor's Note

Orchestral bowings and fingerings can be highly subjective and personal. The choices a string editor makes are designed to be pedagogically appropriate for specific grade levels while facilitating student musicality and honoring composer intent. The editorial additions in the following composition will provide guidance "right out of the box" for the non-string player and suggest some options for the advanced string specialist. Enjoy!

J. Cameron Law, String Editor

A Day in Mykonos

David Bobrowitz (BMI)

Moderately ♩ = 88

1A
Violin

1B
Violin

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

13

21

27

35

39 41 *div.* G. P. 48

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

53 56 62

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

66 70

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

80

87

pizz.
mp
pizz.
mp
pizz.
mp
pizz.
mp
pizz.
mp
pizz.
mp
arco
mf
arco
mf
arco
mf
arco
mf
arco
f *mf*
f *mf*

102 **Faster** ♩ = 92

94

div.
f
f
mp
mf
mp
mf
f
mp
mf
mp
mf

110

Fastest ♩ = 100

105

4
accel.
f
f
f
f

Selected String Orchestra Publications

ENSEMBLE WORKS

BERDINE, KEVIN R.

50250220 Loudoun Tango (Grade 2.5)

This piece was written to celebrate the Loudoun County Public Schools' orchestra's inaugural school year. Administration, staff, families, and students worked tirelessly to bring orchestral music to the schools. Tango was chosen by the students as dance music had been their favorite music to play. Written in the string friendly key of D minor, this lively tango includes interesting parts for all sections and an idiomatic percussion ensemble accompaniment.

BUETTNER, ALLISON

50250232 Holiday Bows: Christmas and Chanukah Songs Featuring Various Bowing Techniques (Grade 2)

Everyone expects a bow on their presents! In this G Major piece, challenge your young musicians to expand their bowing techniques beyond the simple *detache* bow. All parts have the opportunity to use slurs, hooks, and staccato bowings, as well as reinforce the two main finger patterns used in G Major throughout the range of their instruments. Four popular holiday melodies are dispersed throughout every part in the orchestra, and include Deck the Halls, Chanukah, Oh Chanukah, Silent Night, and Jingle Bells. There are many teachable moments wrapped up into one piece that is sure to be a hit on your next holiday concert!

GAMBA, SETH

50250207 Northwestern Blues (Grade 3)

Northwestern Blues is a rockin' 12-bar blues in G with a blues-scale based melody, a funky bass line, drum set, and buckets of soul! Northwestern Blues will give your students the chance to explore rock, jazz, optional improvisation, and a host of fun extended techniques in an instrumental setting that guarantees a rockin' good time! Northwestern Blues was commissioned by Northwestern Middle School in Milton, GA for the 2022 GMEA conference.

GOUNOD, CHARLES

Longfield, Robert

50250130 Ave Verum (Grade 2)

Originally for SATB chorus and piano, Ave Verum has been reworked for string orchestra. It is mature and beautiful music. In G major, it requires the upper strings to mix high and low 2s with the use of the 4th finger. All sections use half, 2nd, and 3rd position.

HANDEL, GEORGE FRIDERIC

Fanning, Vanessa

50250223 Amen Chorus from "The Messiah" (Grade 3)

This arrangement of George Frideric Handel's AMEN CHORUS is skillfully arranged for string orchestra. The fugue-like nature of the piece is the perfect setting for a chamber ensemble or orchestra. Each part is masterfully structured for the string musician with optimal use of bowings and phrasing. This classic is sure to be a classic for your ensemble as well.

HERBERT, VICTOR

Lentner, Sandra

50250216 Toyland and March of the Toys (Grade 3)

This arrangement abruptly changes from the waltz-like TOYLAND to the military-style MARCH OF THE TOYS and its six-eight rhythms. There is opportunity for better cellists to shine, and moving through three key signatures provides a challenge for all students.

PIERPONT, JAMES

Neidhold, Caryn Wiegand

50250199 Jingle Bells for Multi-Level Orchestra (Grade 2.5)

Caryn Wiegand Neidhold has created a bubbly, multi-level arrangement of Jingle Bells with a dollop of holiday tradition and a dash of contemporary rock. Level 2.5 students work on their spiccato skills and pass the melody from section to section, and beginners get to play a piece they know well with the big kids. This piece stands alone for level 2.5 orchestra, can include level 1.5 students, and works wonderfully to feature beginning students. The optional drum set part kicks up the energy for a grand finale. It is perfect for including your first-year students and a great way to brighten the holiday season.

REZNICOW, JOSHUA

52250372 Eclipse (Grade 2)

This exciting work does wonders with the full spectrum of sounds available to string orchestra; spiccato, *col legno* (with the stick), harmonics, tremolo, and more. These effects serve the musical idea, which is an exciting minor mode theme reminiscent of a movie soundtrack. This is one piece your orchestra will ask to play again and again!

50250086 Jubilant Overture (Grade 3)

Scored for a full, resounding tone, Jubilant Overture is just what the title indicates. Its syncopated themes, bright tempos, and sophisticated scoring will energize your string orchestra immediately. The middle lyrical section flows gently and beautifully before returning to the original theme. Keep one hand on the baton and the other on your hat!

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

50250231 Midnight (A Slow Mambo) (Grade 2.5)

On the inspiration for MIDNIGHT (A SLOW MAMBO) the composer writes: "Growing up in New York City, as with any major city, presents a wide variety of opportunities to experience aspects of other cultures. For me those experiences were mostly music related. My feeling comfortable with certain styles and rhythms came early, especially with anything that gets one's body moving. MIDNIGHT is one result of that internalization."

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.

SALIERI, ANTONIO

Rosenhaus, Steven

50250217 Fugue in G (Grade 2.5)

Salieri originally composed this charming FUGUE IN G MAJOR for string quartet. Composer Steven Rosenhaus has expanded the instrumentation to string orchestra in a style consistent with Salieri's own orchestral writing.

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)

If Copland had written for easy level strings, it would have been something like this. There's a wide open sound here, thanks to the rich writing that includes open strings, open fifths, simple harmonics and just the right amount of silence. Very nicely done!

SMETANA, BEDRICH

Wang, Albert

50250071 The Moldau (Grade 3)

The second of the six symphonic poems from Smetana's masterwork MA VLAST (My Country) describes the course of the Moldau River from its beginnings as two springs to its ends as a majestic and mighty river. The piece begins with a gentle, singing melody in the upper strings while the lower strings use pizzicato to sound like a babbling brook. Harmonic shifts and rhythmic changes ebb and flow until the original theme returns to conclude this stunningly beautiful work.

SVENDSEN, R. ANNE

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 ILYITCH

Latham, Lynne

50250150 Sleeping Beauty Waltz (Grade 2)

Presented here in the original key of B flat, the waltz has the melody divided among violoncello, viola, and violin 2. For the dramatic ending, violin 1 ventures stepwise into third position for the final statement of the melody. Teaching hemiola is an absolute must, and all parts have hooked bowings that require some attention.

Selected String Orchestra Publications

ENSEMBLE WORKS

ADLER, SAMUEL

10250078 Concertino No. 3 (Grade 4)

A sophisticated, original three-movement work for string orchestra, this is a terrific addition to the repertoire. Opening with great energy and moving sixteenth notes in the first movement, the second begins quietly and builds large chords with brief melodic passages. The final movement is dance-like, winding to an exciting conclusion. All parts get equal time in the spotlight and independence is vital. A great work.

BACH, JOHANN SEBASTIAN (J.S.)

Doan, Gerald R.

10250117 Fugue in G Minor, The Little (Grade 4)

One of the most recognizable of J.S. Bach's works for organ has been carefully arranged for strings. Careful attention to rhythmic accuracy and balance will pay huge dividends in this important work. Appropriate for concerts and festivals.

BACH, JOHANN SEBASTIAN (J.S.)

Latham, Lynne

52250226 Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 for String Orchestra (Grade 4)

Bach's famous "Brandenburg Concertos" are considered by many to be the pinnacle of the Baroque Concerto Grosso style. Written in G Major, this workout for inner voices includes optional 3rd violin.

BRAHMS, JOHANNES

Hopkins, Michael

50250233 Symphony No. 4, Second Movement (Grade 4)

Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897) composed his Symphony No. 4 in E minor, Op. 98 in 1884. The symphony's premiere was in October 1885. This arrangement of the second movement is designed to make Brahms' masterpiece accessible for an intermediate level string orchestra. The introduction, principal and secondary themes, a portion of the development section and recapitulation, and the coda are included in this abridged arrangement. The time signature has been modified from a slow 6/8 to 3/4, and the key has been changed from E major to D major. The arrangement features sections for solo quartet contrasting with the tutti and captures the rich textures, rhythmic vitality, and Romanticism of Brahms original work. Your students will enjoy performing this beautiful work by one of history's greatest composers.

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.

FAURE, GABRIEL-URBAIN

Simpson, Carl

M800490 Pavane for String Orchestra (Grade 4)

The Pavane, Op. 50, is by French composer Gabriel Fauré written in 1887. It was originally a piano piece, but is better known in Fauré's version for orchestra and optional chorus. Obtaining its rhythm from the slow processional Spanish court dance of the same name, the Pavane ebbs and flows from a series of harmonic and melodic climaxes, conjuring a haunting Belle Époque elegance. This version is arranged for String Orchestra by Carl Simpson.

FINE, MARSHALL

52250342 Riu, Riu, Chiu (Grade 4)

A rousing, challenging arrangement worth the effort! It is sure to be the highlight of any holiday concert.

GLUCK, CHRISTOPH WILLIBALD

Doan, Gerald R.

10250114 Dance of the Furies (Grade 4)

DANCE OF THE FURIES was originally scored for strings with pairs of oboes, bassoons, and horns, plus three trombones. This arrangement moves essential wind lines into string parts while maintaining the original flavor of the well-known composition. The bass part, which originally duplicated the cello line, has been rhythmically simplified while preserving shift work necessary for the technical challenge to developing basses. Advanced bass students may wish to play from cello parts. The challenge to all lies in speed.

GRIEG, EDVARD

Rosenhaus, Steven

M800690 Peer Gynt: Incidental Music Suite, Set 1 for String Orchestra (Grade 4)

This set of Grieg's masterpieces includes Solveig's Dance, Deep in the Coniferous Forest, Anitra's Dance, and In The Hall Of The Mountain King. The StringMasters Series, based on the success of the Concertmasters Series, is a collection of full orchestra music carefully transcribed for string orchestras. This great literature has been arranged by master orchestrators and tested on string orchestras for years before its release!

HOPKINS, MICHAEL

50250234 Cyborg (Grade 4)

Cyborg is an upbeat, high energy blues-rock piece for intermediate orchestra. This is a great piece for working on left hand chromatic fingering, syncopated rhythms, and crisp articulations. Written in a modified 12-bar blues form, the music features all sections of the orchestra on thematic material. You and your students will have fun performing this exciting work for intermediate orchestra.

MASCAGNI, PIETRO

Simpson, Carl

M800590 Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana for String Orchestra (Simpson) (Grade 4)

Here is one of the most beautiful moments in all of opera! This arrangement creates a big, lush sound by writing divisi into every section but the basses with some brief solo passages for the concertmaster. Nothing held back here! Ideal for combined string groups since the divisi passages have simple parts.

RAVEL, MAURICE

Atwell, ShirI Jae

52250418 Pavane pour une Infante Defunte (Pavane for a Dead Princess) (Grade 4)

Originally written in 1899 by Maurice Ravel for solo piano, and later orchestrated by the composer, PAVANE POUR UNE INFANTE DÉFUNTE (PAVANE FOR A DEAD PRINCESS) remains one of the enduringly popular of Ravel's works, though the title can be a curiosity for many. Ravel said of the work, "Do not attach any importance to the title: I chose it only for its euphonious qualities. Do not dramatize it. It is not a funeral lament for a dead child, but rather an evocation of the pavane [a stately, 16th-century Spanish court dance] which could have been danced by such a little princess as painted by Velázquez." This arrangement by ShirI Jae Atwell retains the lush, romantic sound of the original through the use of extensive divisi.

RAVEL, MAURICE

Simpson, Carl

M800790 Pavane pour une Infante defunte for String Orchestra (Grade 4)

Here is Ravel's most famous full orchestra work transcribed for strings! To recreate the vivid textures of the original, rich divisi writing is used throughout, and soloists in both cello and violin are utilized. This is an outstanding work arranged by master orchestrators and tested on string orchestras for years before its release!

REZNICOW, JOSHUA

50250156 A Warrior's Dream: Tone Poem for String Orchestra (Grade 4)

A tone poem, A Warrior's Dream uses a myriad of special effects and articulations to tell its story. All sections are required to shift, first violins and cellos most frequently. The length and vigorousness of bowing make fatigue a possible factor of difficulty.

50250230 American Frontier (Grade 4)

AMERICAN FRONTIER for string orchestra was written utilizing various ensemble configurations from within the string orchestra. Solo lines, quartet, quintet, and sectional soli all help to make up the overall design and orchestral colors of the piece. As a juxtaposition to this, large divisi string writing is utilized to help balance the smaller ensemble writing within the score. The work is inspired by images of a western frontier...one filled with large fields, mountains and sunsets, as well as subtle character-filled details that would have a forward and fast-moving feel.

52250538 American Sketches (Grade 4)

A rousing concert ender, this work will challenge all sections with a wide range (every part shifts), running passage work, trills, and syncopated rhythms. The B section, a lyric waltz theme, shows off the principal players with extended solos. The return of the A section superimposes the waltz melody on the original syncopated theme for a wonderful conclusion.