

Young String Ensemble Series

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 - Full Score
- 8 - Violin 1
- 8 - Violin 2
- 4 - Violin 3
- 4 - Viola
- 5 - Cello
- 2 - Double Bass
- 1 - Piano

A Minor Matter

by Loreta Fin

Program and Rehearsal Notes

Duration: 2:00

Level: 2

This piece is ideally suited to introducing half position. It does not complicate the learning with intricate rhythms, but focuses on the harmonies and melodic line, using low first fingers in all parts. Courtesy reminders are used here and there, to ensure that the students are prepared to place the hand correctly. This piece is dedicated to Tim Smetham, who is Assistant Head of the Junior School where I worked. Not only is he adept at solving all sorts of “minor matters” at school, he is also a very fine pianist and dear friend, who accompanied many of my string orchestras and students for over 25 years.

Loreta Fin was Director of Strings at Somerville House School for Girls in Brisbane, Australia for 35 years. She conducted the String Orchestras at the school at primary, middle and secondary levels. All of these ensembles received Platinum Awards in competitions over the years. Loreta has presented at National and International conferences. She has conducted the String Orchestras at both the Queensland State Honours and Australian Honours Ensemble Programs over several years. From 2000 to 2004, Loreta was Queensland State President of Austa (Australian Strings Association) and served as the National President from 2005 to 2007. She is also a Federal Examiner with the Australian Music Examinations Board and an advisor on several music education boards.

Loreta studied at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and has performed regularly as a freelance musician in chamber music and orchestral concerts, as well as in musical theatre. She has been Principal Violist with the Queensland Pops Orchestra for over 30 years. Well known as an experienced educator and adjudicator, Loreta has also written over 100 publications for young string orchestras, which are frequently selected as set works for competitions and festivals. Loreta’s aim is to bring an appreciation and enjoyment of music to as many young string players as possible, while teaching valuable rhythmic and technical skills in an enjoyable way. She has received State and National Awards in recognition of her service to AUSTA and the String and Music Communities of Australia.

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A Minor Matter

For my dear friend Tim Smetham

Loreta Fin

Musical score for "A Minor Matter" by Loreta Fin. The score is for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, Bass, and Piano. The tempo is marked $\text{♩} = 70$. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 1 through 8. The second system covers measures 9 through 16. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (f , p), articulation marks (accents), and fingering indications (L1, L2, 0, 4, 2). A large red watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid on the score, along with the text "Legal Use Requires Purchase".

17

Musical score for measures 17-24. The score is written for five staves: two treble clefs, two bass clefs, and a grand staff. The first four staves are for individual instruments, and the fifth is for piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first four staves start with a dynamic of *mf* and change to *mp* at measure 20. The piano accompaniment starts with *mf* and changes to *mp* at measure 20. There are various performance markings such as *L1*, *V*, and *(b)* throughout the passage.

25

Musical score for measures 25-32. The score continues from the previous system. The first four staves start with a dynamic of *mf* and change to *pp* at measure 28. The piano accompaniment starts with *mf* and changes to *pp* at measure 28. There are various performance markings such as *pizz.*, *L1*, and *(b)* throughout the passage.

49

Musical score for measures 49-56. The score is written for five staves: four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major). The tempo is marked 'f' (forte). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. A large red watermark 'Preview Only! Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

57

Musical score for measures 57-64. The score is written for five staves: four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major). The tempo is marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. A large red watermark 'Preview Only! Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

65

Musical score for measures 65-70. The score is written for five staves: two treble clefs, two bass clefs, and a grand staff. The first four staves are marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and the fifth is marked *p* (piano). The music features eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations like accents and slurs. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

71

Musical score for measures 71-76. The score is written for five staves: two treble clefs, two bass clefs, and a grand staff. The first four staves are marked *ff* (fortissimo) and the fifth is marked *sf* (sforzando). The music features eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations like accents and slurs. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.