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

Rhyme Time for Strings

Commissioned by the Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra

by Loreta Fin

Duration: 2:45

Level: 1

Program and Rehearsal Notes

This piece was commissioned by Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra, Junior Strings. Three well-known nursery rhymes are arranged, using almost "every trick in the string playing book," such as pizzicato, slurs, staccato, tenuto, glissandi, harmonics, Bartok or snap pizzicato, col legno, trills, left hand pizzicato, playing behind the bridge, knocking and stomping. The concept is to introduce young string players to these fun techniques, all while feeling the beat, counting the rhythms and of course, following the conductor. It is recommended that the ensemble sings the three rhymes, before learning to play the piece. There are 3 different time signatures, connected by a railentando from Oranges and Lemons in 3/4 into 6/8 for Hickory Dickory Dock and then an accelerando into Twinkle Twinkle, which is in 4/4, and uses some simple, interesting chromatics in the 2nd verse. The last section is an original idea, using syncopated rhythms, with a final nod to the first 2 nursery rhymes to end the piece. Plenty of string skills to keep the students on their toes.

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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PO Box 2188, Runcorn, Queensland 4113, Australia Telephone: +61 7 3341 8086

Email: enquiries@wilfinmusic.com.au Website: www.wilfinmusic.com.au

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RHYME TIME for STRINGS

Commissioned by the Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra

Oranges and Lemons, Hickory Dickory Dock and Twinkle Twinkle

Traditional Tunes

















