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FJH STRING ORCHESTRA

Grade 4

FANTASY ON A CHINESE THEME

I. THE GOLDEN THREAD II. WAKING THE DRAGON

Francis Osentowski

Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
5 - Viola
5 - Violoncello
5 - Double Bass
1 - Percussion 1
Crash Cymbals
3 Suspended Cymbals
1 - Percussion 2
4 Tom-toms

T H E
F · J · H
M U S I C
C O M P A N Y
I N C.

Frank J. Hackinson

2525 Davie Road, Suite 360
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33317-7424
www.fjhmusic.com



The Composer

Francis Osentowski (b. 1943) received his undergraduate degree in music from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and his master's degree in music education and doctor of musical arts degree in composition from the University of North Texas. At UNT, he studied composition with Martin Mailman and William Latham, and electronic music with Merrill Ellis. Postdoctoral work has included film composition at Berklee College of Music, and music theory on a Fulbright Fellowship at New York University.

Dr. Osentowski has composed works for a wide variety of instrumental and vocal mediums, and has written for video, theater, and television. As an educator, he is active as a clinician and adjudicator for student composers, and as a judge for the Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival Singer/Songwriter Contest in Richardson, Texas. Dr. Osentowski has been a professor of music for more than 30 years at North Lake College in Irving, Texas, where he serves as head of the music department.

Dr. Osentowski is married, and has a son, a daughter, and two grandchildren.

About the Music

Shanbei is an area in northern China famous for folk songs characterized by lively rhythms and tuneful melodies. This music is sung or played as part of daily life, and at concerts and festivals. Melodies are passed down orally from generation to generation. The Chinese word for this category of music is *xiaodiao* or folk tunes.

The melody used in both movements is a traditional folk song from the Shanbei region titled *Embroidering on a Silk Banner with Golden Thread*. The title illustrates the Chinese tradition of decorating clothing, theatrical costumes, flags, and banners with brightly colored silk thread. Due to the high cost of the materials, embroidered items such as these were often associated with nobility. Synonymous with success, happiness, and prosperity is the color gold.

The dragon dance, a Chinese tradition dating back to the ancient Han Dynasty (206 B.C.–A.D. 220), is performed at festive celebrations. Unlike the European tradition that views the dragon as an evil fire-breathing monster that captures princesses and battles knights, Chinese culture holds great respect for the sacred river dragon. When awakened, this dragon is said to control the clouds and rain, and bring prosperity to the land. It symbolizes supernatural power, goodness, and respect for all people.

String Editing: Soon Hee Newbold

Duration: 4:30
I. 2:00
II. 2:30

for Sara A. Long and the Richardson High School Orchestra, Richardson, Texas,
in celebration of the Orchestra's 40th Anniversary, (2008)

FANTASY ON A CHINESE THEME

I. The Golden Thread

FRANCIS OSENTOWSKI

Andante (♩ = 88–92)

Violin 1 play second time (♩) V play both times (♩) V

Violin 2 play second time (♩) V play both times (♩) V

Viola play second time (♩) V play both times (♩) V

Violoncello pizz. mf pizz. mf

Double Bass mf Sus. Cyms.

Percussion 1 (3 Suspended Cymbals) mf

Percussion 2 (4 Tom-toms) mp

2 3 4

5 Solo (V) f

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

5 6 7 8



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12

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Solo arco

Vcl.

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

9 10 11 12 13

mf *f* *mf* *mp*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

14 16 17

mf *f* *div. arco* *arco*

18

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl. *tutti*

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

p

p

mp

18 19 20 21

22

Vln. 1 *tutti* *f*

Vln. 2 *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vcl. *mp*

D.B. *mp*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

mp

22 23 24 25 26

[illegible]

II. Waking the Dragon

Moderato (♩ = 100)

Violin 1 *mp*

Violin 2 *mp*

Viola *mp*

Violoncello *pizz.* *mp* *div.*

Double Bass *pizz.* *mp*

Percussion 1 (Crash Cymbals, 3 Suspended Cymbals) *mf*

Percussion 2 (4 Tom-toms) *mp*

Sus. Cyms. play second time only

2 3 4

stringendo

7 Allegro (♩ = 132–138)

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vcl. *mf*

D.B. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf* Cr. Cym.

Perc. 2 *mf*

5 6 7 8

[illegible]

19 Marcato assai

Vln. 1 *div.* *f*
 Vln. 2 *f* *div.*
 Vla. *f*
 Vcl. *pizz.* *f*
 D.B. *pizz.* *f*
 Perc. 1 *f* *Cr. Cym.* *Sus. Cyms.* *Cr. Cym.*
 Perc. 2 *f*

19 *f* 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Vln. 1 *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*
 Vln. 2 *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*
 Vla. *arco* *div.* *sfz* *arco* *div.* *sfz*
 Vcl. *sfz* *Bartók snap* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*
 D.B. *sfz* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*
 Perc. 1 *sfz* *Cr. Cym.* *Sus. Cyms.* *Cr. Cym.* *Sus. Cyms.* *sfz*
 Perc. 2 *sfz*

27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

Note: The gliss. at m. 27 and m. 31 should be played very fast after the downbeat is held for almost the full value.

37 Lyric

Score for measures 35-38. Instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., D.B., Perc. 1, Perc. 2. Includes dynamic markings (*mf*, *mp*) and a large red watermark.

Score for measures 39-42. Instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., D.B., Perc. 1, Perc. 2. Includes a large red watermark.

43 44 45 46

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

47 48 49 50

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

51 52 53

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

div. V

54 55 56

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Gradually building

Perc. 2

57

58

59 *f*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Sus. Cyms.

Cr. Cym.

Sus. Cyms.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

60 61 62 63 64

Score for measures 65 to 69. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Double Bass (D.B.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), and Percussion 2 (Perc. 2). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 3/4.

Measure 65: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 66: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 67: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 68: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 69: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Annotations: *div.* (divisi) for Vla. and Vcl. in measures 66 and 67. *arco* (arco) for Vcl. in measure 69. *Sus. Cym.* (Sustained Cymbal) for Perc. 1 in measure 69.

Score for measures 70 to 74. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Double Bass (D.B.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), and Percussion 2 (Perc. 2). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 3/4.

Measure 70: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 71: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 72: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 73: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Measure 74: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth notes. Vla. and Vcl. play quarter notes. D.B. plays quarter notes. Perc. 1 plays a cymbal roll. Perc. 2 plays eighth notes.

Annotations: *sfz* (sforzando) for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., and Vcl. in measures 70 and 71. *mp* (mezzo-piano) for Perc. 1 and Perc. 2 in measures 71 and 72. *ff* (fortissimo) for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. in measure 74. *choke* for Perc. 1 in measure 74.