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FJH BEGINNING STRINGS

Grade 1

PEPPERONI PIZZA ROCK

Brian Balmages

Instrumentation

- 1 - Conductor's Full Score
- 8 - Violin 1
- 8 - Violin 2 (Viola T.C.)
- 5 - Viola
- 5 - Violoncello
- 5 - Double Bass
- 1 - Piano
- 1 - Opt. Drum Set

FJH is now using a high-speed sorting system for parts.
As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.

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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

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer, conductor, producer, and performer. He received his bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and his master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. Mr. Balmages' compositions have been performed worldwide at conferences including the College Band Directors National Conference, the Midwest Clinic, American String Teachers Association National Conference, and the international trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba/euphonium conferences. His active schedule of commissions and premieres has incorporated groups ranging from elementary schools to professional ensembles, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the Miami Symphony Orchestra, the University of Miami Wind Ensemble, Boston Brass, members of the United States Marine Band, and the Dominion Brass Ensemble. His music has been performed by members of leading orchestras throughout the country and he has enjoyed world premieres and performances in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, as well as performances at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys engagements with numerous all-state and regional honor bands and orchestras along with university and professional groups. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, College Band Directors Eastern Regional Conference, and MENC. Additional conducting appearances have included the Kennedy Center and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. He has also served as an adjunct professor of instrumental conducting and Acting Symphonic Band Director at Towson University in Maryland.

Currently, Mr. Balmages is the Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company Inc. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He resides in Baltimore with his wife, Lisa, and their sons, Jacob and Collin.

About the Music

The concept for this piece came out of a conversation with my wife in which we were discussing various techniques teachers use to help young children learn new rhythms. She began saying "Pepperoni pizza" for fun, and once I heard it, a melody immediately began forming in my mind. The rhythm and melody are as follows, with "pepperoni pizza" written below, purely for reference (the words are not included in the performance of the piece).



To really make this piece rock I included an optional drum set part (which helps make the tune). I also included an open solo section with guide notes (included for all instruments). This is designed to get even the youngest of players introduced to the concept of improvisation. The beauty of this section is that all notes provided will work with the accompaniment. More advanced players can stretch the range of the improvisation and add passing tones, substitutions, etc. You can also consider bringing in a guest artist and/or use an electric violin for the solo. While the solo section formally ends at measure 33, notice that the soloist can continue to play until measure 37 (this is particularly effective if you have a "rock-star" soloist that can really dig in at this point).

For young students just learning about improvisation, start off with some basic rhythms. Students can even notate basic rhythms on their own. They can also base their improvisation on the signature rhythm of the work — an improvised "pepperoni pizza."

Finally, the piece will also work purely with violin 1 and piano. This gives directors a great deal of performance flexibility. Since violin 2 and viola are doubled throughout, there are occasional moments of divisi in each part. Directors can assign the top note to violin 2 and the bottom note to viola (or distribute accordingly for equal balance).

String Editing: Carrie Lane Gruselle

PEPPERONI PIZZA ROCK

BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

Rock (♩ = 152)

Violin 1

Violin 2 (Viola T.C.)

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

Piano

Drum Set (opt.)

high tom

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

crash

hi-hat

D.S.

5 6 7 8



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9

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

div.

div.

3

1

9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16

low tom

The musical score is arranged in a system of staves. Measures 9-12 are shown in the first system, and measures 13-16 in the second. The instruments are Vln. 1, Vln. 2 (Vla. T.C.), Vla., Vcl., D.B., Piano, and D.S. (Drum Set). The key signature has one sharp (F#). In measure 9, Vln. 2 and Vla. have a 'div.' (divisi) marking. In measure 12, Vln. 2 and Vla. have a 'V' marking. The Piano part has a '3' marking in measure 12. The D.S. part has a '1' marking in measure 12. In measure 16, the D.S. part has a 'low tom' marking. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

17

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

17 18 19 20

div.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

21 22 23 24

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

25 26 27 28

guide notes (provided for all instruments)



29

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

29 30 31 32

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

33 on cue (opt. continue solo to ms. 37)

33 on cue (opt. continue solo to ms. 37)

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

33 34 35 36

37

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 (Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

37 38 39 40

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

41 42 43 44

45

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
(Vla. T.C.)

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Piano

D.S.

45 46 47 48

div.

3

1