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# FJH STRING ORCHESTRA

Grade 5+

## A MOMENT FOR PEACE

(FOR DOUBLE ORCHESTRA)

Brian Balmages

### Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score

*\* Also performable in a standard orchestral configuration*

ORCHESTRA 1 (Left)

6 - Violin 1

6 - Violin 2

3 - Viola

3 - Violoncello

3 - Double Bass

ORCHESTRA 2 (Right)

6 - Violin 1

6 - Violin 2

3 - Viola

3 - Violoncello

3 - Double Bass

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As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.

T H E  
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I N C.

Frank J. Hackinson

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## The Composer

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer, conductor, producer, and performer. He holds a bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and a master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. His compositions have been performed worldwide at the state, national and international level. His active schedule of commissions and premieres has incorporated groups ranging from elementary schools to professional ensembles, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Miami Symphony Orchestra, University of Miami Wind Ensemble, Boston Brass, and the Dominion Brass Ensemble. In 2012, Mr. Balmages received the prestigious Albert Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association. He is also a 2010 winner of the Harvey G. Phillips Award for Compositional Excellence, presented by the International Tuba-Euphonium Association.

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, National Association for Music Educators, American School Band Directors Association, CBDNA, 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 two sons.

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## About the Music

The music herein began as a response to numerous tragedies unfolding around the world – mass shootings, city riots against the treatment of minorities by police (including my own city of Baltimore), and bombings in London, to name a few. Then, once I began writing, the tragedies continued – terrorist attacks in Paris, more shootings, and the refugee crises involving refugees fleeing North Africa and the Middle East. In times like this, I often turn to the arts for comfort as so many others do. My goal with this music was to create a musical moment of peace – a time when the listener and performer will be drawn away from the chaos of the world and surrounded by absolute calm. A time when emotions can run rampant in a safe place and a large number of musicians can come together in a single, musical voice. The piece explores a roller coaster of emotions, but ties them all together with a unifying theme that promotes the peace that we all desperately need.

The music is scored for double string orchestra. Ideally, orchestra 1 is to the conductor's left and orchestra 2 is to the right. If that is not possible, the piece can certainly be performed in a standard configuration. In such a situation, I prefer to divide the orchestra so that Violin 1 and 2 (left) would take up the space that a traditional violin 1 section would occupy. Violin 1 and 2 (right) would then occupy the space of a traditional Violin 2 section, etc. The spatial element of the piece was inspired by Ralph Vaughan Williams' amazing and powerful *Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis*. While Vaughan Williams also calls for a string quartet, *A Moment for Peace* calls for soloists from every section of both orchestras – single voices emerging from the masses.

*A Moment for Peace* was commissioned by the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association in celebration of its 75th anniversary. The piece was premiered by the All-Virginia Orchestra; Dr. Kathleen Horvath, conductor.

# A MOMENT FOR PEACE

BRIAN BALMAGES  
(ASCAP)

(for double orchestra)

Largo (♩ = 52)

Orchestra 1 (Left)

Violin 1  
Violin 2  
Viola  
Violoncello  
Double Bass

Orchestra 2 (Right)

Violin 1  
Violin 2  
Viola  
Violoncello  
Double Bass

2 3 4 5 6 7

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

8 9 10



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14

ord.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

12

15

16

*p* *mp* *p* *mp*

*ord.*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

12

15

16

*p* *mp* *p* *mp*

*poco rit.* *A tempo*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

17

18

21

div. *mf* *mp* *mp*

un. *p* *mp* *mp*

solo *mp* *mp* *pizz.*

*p* *mp* *p*

*p* *mp* *p*

*p* *mp* *p*

(V) (V)

*p* *mp* *p*

23 con moto ma non troppo

Score for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. (Measures 22-25).  
Vln. 1: *p*, *tutti*, *div.*, *mp cresc. poco a poco*  
Vln. 2: *solo mp*, *tutti*, *mp*, *cresc. poco a poco*  
Vla.: *tutti*, *mp*, *cresc. poco a poco*  
Vcl.: *tutti*, *mp*, *cresc. poco a poco*  
D.B.: *arco*, *p*, *mp cresc. poco a poco*

Score for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. (Measures 26-29).  
Vln. 1: *tutti p*, *cresc. poco a poco*  
Vln. 2: *mp cresc. poco a poco*  
Vla.: *mp*, *cresc. poco a poco*  
Vcl.: *p*, *cresc. poco a poco*  
D.B.: *p*, *cresc. poco a poco*

Score for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. (Measures 30-33).  
Vln. 1: *f*  
Vln. 2: *f*  
Vla.: *f*  
Vcl.: *f*  
D.B.: *f*

Score for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. (Measures 34-37).  
Vln. 1: *f*  
Vln. 2: *f*  
Vla.: *f*  
Vcl.: *f*  
D.B.: *f*

22

25

26

poco rit.

31 Tempo I, con amore

poco rit.

Musical score for measures 30-33. The score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. The second system includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. The tempo is marked 'Tempo I, con amore'. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *mp*. Performance instructions include *pizz.*, *arco*, and *v*. A large red watermark 'Preview Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

A tempo

poco rit.

Musical score for measures 35-38. The score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. The second system includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vcl., and D.B. The tempo is marked 'A tempo'. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, and *ppp*. Performance instructions include *pizz.*, *arco*, *v*, and *port.*. A large red watermark 'Preview Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

39 A tempo, dolce

39 40 41 42

Vln. 1 *ppp* *n* con sord. solo *mp*

Vln. 2 *ppp* *n* con sord. solo *mp*

Vla. *ppp* *p* *n* con sord. solo *mp*

Vcl. *p* *n* *p* solo *mp*

D.B. *ppp* *n* *p* solo *mp*

Vln. 1 *ppp*

Vln. 2 *ppp*

Vla. *ppp* *p*

Vcl. *ppp* *p* *pp*

D.B. *ppp* *pp*

Vln. 1 *p* *mp* tutti (con sord.)

Vln. 2 *p* *mp* tutti (con sord.)

Vla. *p* *mp*

Vcl. solo *mp* *mf*

D.B. solo *mp* *mf*

44 45 46 47

Vln. 1 *p* *mp*

Vln. 2 *p* *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vcl. *p* *mp*

D.B. *p* *mp*





Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass

*mf cresc. poco a poco*

div.

56 *mf cresc. poco a poco* 58

This section of the score covers measures 56 to 58. It features six staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The music is in a minor key and features a steady, rhythmic accompaniment. The dynamic marking is *mf cresc. poco a poco*. In measure 57, there is a *div.* (divisi) instruction for the Violin 1 part. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks.

Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass

*f*

59 60

This section of the score covers measures 59 to 60. It features six staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The music continues with a similar rhythmic pattern. The dynamic marking changes to *f* (forte) starting in measure 59. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks.

poco rit.

62 *cresc. poco a poco* 63 *cresc. poco a poco* 64

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*  
*cresc. poco a poco*

65 A tempo, molto appassionato

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*

65 *ff* 66 67

Vln. 1 (V)  
*mf dim. poco a poco*  
 Vln. 2 (V)  
*mf dim. poco a poco*  
 Vla.  
*mf dim. poco a poco*  
 Vcl.  
*mf dim. poco a poco*  
 D.B.  
*mf dim. poco a poco*

Vln. 1  
*f dim. poco a poco*  
 Vln. 2  
*f dim. poco a poco*  
 Vla.  
*f dim. poco a poco*  
 Vcl.  
*mf dim. poco a poco*  
 D.B.  
*mf dim. poco a poco*

68

rit.

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Vcl.  
 D.B.

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Vcl.  
 D.B.

73 Lento affettuoso (♩ = 50)

73 74 75 76 77

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p* solo *mp*

D.B. solo *mp*

Vln. 1 *pizz.* *mp* *arco* *p*

Vln. 2 *pizz.* *mp* *arco* *p*

Vla. *p* *pizz.* *mp* *arco* *p*

Vcl. *pizz.* *mp*

D.B. solo *mp* *v*

79

78 79 80 81 82

Vln. 1 solo *p*

Vln. 2 solo *p*

Vla. solo *p*

Vcl. solo *mp* *p*

D.B. solo *mp* *p* tutti con sord. *p*

lento

84 Lacrimoso (♩ = 48)

Musical score for measures 83-87. The score is for Violin I (Vln. 1), Violin II (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The tempo is marked 'lento' and the time signature is 6/4. Measure 83 features a solo for the Cello (Vcl.) marked *mp*. Measures 84-87 feature tutti for all instruments, marked *pp*, with the instruction 'tutti con sord.' (tutti with mutes). Dynamics include *pp* and *ppp*. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

83

84

85

86

87

morendo

Musical score for measures 88-91. The score is for Violin I (Vln. 1), Violin II (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The tempo is marked 'morendo'. Measure 88 features a solo for Violin I (Vln. 1) marked *p* and 'solo senza sord.' (solo without mutes). Measures 89-91 feature tutti for all instruments, marked *pp* or *ppp*, with the instruction 'tutti con sord.' (tutti with mutes). Dynamics include *pp*, *p*, and *ppp*. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

88

89

90

91