



MOMENTOUS

for single or multi-level string orchestra

Brian Balmages

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score

Grade 2 set (playable alone)

- 8 - Violin 1A
- 8 - Violin 2A
- 5 - Violin 3A (Viola T.C.)
- 5 - Viola A
- 5 - Violoncello A
- 5 - Double Bass A

Grade 1/2 set (supplemental)

- 5 - Violin C
- 5 - Viola C
- 5 - Violoncello C
- 5 - Double Bass C
- 1 - Piano

Grade 1 set (playable alone)

- 8 - Violin 1B
- 8 - Violin 2B
- 5 - Violin 3B (Viola T.C.)
- 5 - Viola B
- 5 - Violoncello B
- 5 - Double Bass B

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





The Composer

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer and conductor. His music has been performed throughout the world with commissions ranging from elementary schools to professional orchestras. World premieres include prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. His music was also performed as part of the 2013 Presidential Inaugural Prayer Service, which was attended by both President Obama and Vice President Biden. He is a recipient of the prestigious A. Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association, won the 2020 NBA William D. Revelli Composition Contest with his work *Love and Light*, and in 2016 was awarded the James Madison University Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Visual and Performing Arts (the first year the award was given). In the same year, he was commissioned by his other alma mater, the University of Miami, to compose music for the inauguration of the institution's 6th president, Dr. Julio Frenk.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys regular engagements with all-state and region bands and orchestras, as well as university and professional ensembles throughout the world. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, College Band Directors Conference, American School Band Directors Association National Conference and others. Additional conducting appearances have included the Kennedy Center and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall as well as engagements in Australia, Canada and Italy. Currently, he is Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company and Assistant Director of Bands and Orchestras at Towson University.

About the Music

Referring to a momentous occasion, this stately work lends itself equally well as an opener or closer. It combines elements of Baroque and Contemporary music, featuring both powerful fanfare-inspired lines and lyrical melodies with engaging harmonies. Commissioned by the Greenwich Public Schools String Festival in Connecticut, the work was originally composed as a "festival piece" to allow multiple levels of string musicians to perform together. In addition to being able to be performed as a multi-level work, the piece can also be performed by a single level as follows:

A parts - Grade 2 (playable alone or with multi-level parts)

B parts - Grade 1 (playable alone or with multi-level parts)

C parts - Grade 0.5 (supplemental parts only - requires addition of A or B parts)

Thus, orchestra directors can choose to program only A parts (for a grade 2 ensemble) and the entire piece works just fine. The same is true for the grade 1 B parts. C parts are all open string and very limited first finger. Of course, once a director has a core set of parts (all A or all B) covered, they may "mix and match" any other parts. So some grade 1 ensembles may play the B part version, but a few accelerated students can move up to the A parts. Likewise, a group playing the grade 2 version may find that there are some players in the orchestra will be more successful playing B parts. This gives directors a ton of performance flexibility. Enjoy!

- Brian Balmages

Duration: 3:00

Multi-level full score

A parts – Grade 2 (playable alone)

B parts – Grade 1 (playable alone)

C parts – Grade 0.5 (supplemental)

commissioned by the Greenwich Public Schools (CT) String Festival

Jillian Corey and Aaron Lofaro, Festival Directors

MOMENTOUS

for single or multi-level string orchestra

BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

Allegro giusto (♩ = 148)



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ST6546

Musical score for measures 6-11. The score includes parts for Vln. 1A, Vln. 2A, Vla. A, Vcl. A, D.B. A, Vln. 1B, Vln. 2B, Vla. B, Vcl. B, D.B. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vcl. C, D.B. C, and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

The image shows a page of a musical score, page 5, covering measures 12 through 16. The score is for a string quartet and piano. The instruments are arranged as follows:

- Vln. 1A:** Violin 1A, Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It starts with a rest in measure 12, then plays a melodic line starting in measure 13. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present in measure 13. A hairpin symbol is above the first note in measure 13, and an *L2* marking is above the second note.
- Vln. 2A:** Violin 2A, Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13. A hairpin symbol is above the first note in measure 13, and a *4* marking is above the first note in measure 12.
- Vla. A:** Viola A, Alto clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13. A hairpin symbol is above the first note in measure 13.
- Vcl. A:** Violoncello A, Bass clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with quarter notes and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- D.B. A:** Double Bass A, Bass clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with quarter notes and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- Vln. 1B:** Violin 1B, Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. It starts with a rest in measure 12, then plays a melodic line starting in measure 13. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13. A hairpin symbol is above the first note in measure 13.
- Vln. 2B:** Violin 2B, Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- Vla. B:** Viola B, Alto clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- Vcl. B:** Violoncello B, Bass clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with quarter notes and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- D.B. B:** Double Bass B, Bass clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with quarter notes and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- Vln. C:** Violin C, Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- Vla. C:** Viola C, Alto clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- Vcl. C:** Violoncello C, Bass clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with quarter notes and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- D.B. C:** Double Bass C, Bass clef, key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with quarter notes and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.
- Pno.:** Piano, grand staff (treble and bass clefs), key signature of two sharps. It plays a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in measure 13.

The score is marked with a large red watermark that reads "Preview Only" and "Legal Use Requires Purchase".

17

Vln. 1A
Vln. 2A
Vla. A
Vcl. A
D.B. A
Vln. 1B
Vln. 2B
Vla. B
Vcl. B
D.B. B
Vln. C
Vla. C
Vcl. C
D.B. C
Pno.

17 18 19 20 21

25

non div.

non div.

The image displays a page of a musical score for a string ensemble, covering measures 22 through 27. The score is arranged in a system with 14 staves. The instruments are: Vln. 1A, Vln. 2A, Vla. A, Vcl. A, D.B. A, Vln. 1B, Vln. 2B, Vla. B, Vcl. B, D.B. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vcl. C, D.B. C, and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo/mood marking is 'non div.'. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page. A box containing the number '25' is located at the top center. The Pno. part is written in grand staff notation. The string parts include various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Some parts have 'V' markings above them, likely indicating bowing techniques.

22

23

24

25

26

27

This musical score page contains parts for Vln. 1A, Vln. 2A, Vla. A, Vcl. A, D.B. A, Vln. 1B, Vln. 2B, Vla. B, Vcl. B, D.B. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vcl. C, D.B. C, and Pno. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page. The piano part is at the bottom, and the string parts are grouped above it. Measure numbers 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 are indicated at the bottom of the page.

37

Musical score for measures 34-39. The score includes parts for Vln. 1A, Vln. 2A, Vla. A, Vcl. A, D.B. A, Vln. 1B, Vln. 2B, Vla. B, Vcl. B, D.B. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vcl. C, D.B. C, and Pno. Dynamics range from *mf* to *p*. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on the score.

45

Vln. 1A

Vln. 2A

Vla. A

Vcl. A

D.B. A

Vln. 1B

Vln. 2B

Vla. B

Vcl. B

D.B. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vcl. C

D.B. C

Pno.

4

legato

p

p

p

p

40 41 42 43 44 45

0 4

Vln. 1A

Vln. 2A

Vla. A

Vcl. A

D.B. A

Vln. 1B

Vln. 2B

Vla. B

Vcl. B

D.B. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vcl. C

D.B. C

Pno.

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

46 47 48 49 50 51

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52

Vln. 1A *mp*

Vln. 2A *mp* 4

Vla. A *mp*

Vcl. A *mp* *legato*

D.B. A *mp* *legato*

Vln. 1B *mp*

Vln. 2B *mp*

Vla. B *mp*

Vcl. B *mp* *legato*

D.B. B *mp* *legato*

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vcl. C

D.B. C

Pno. *mp*

52 53 54 55 56 57

60

The image shows a page of a musical score, page 13, starting at measure 58 and ending at measure 63. The score is for a string ensemble and piano. The instruments are listed on the left: Vln. 1A, Vln. 2A, Vla. A, Vcl. A, D.B. A, Vln. 1B, Vln. 2B, Vla. B, Vcl. B, D.B. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vcl. C, D.B. C, and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is indicated for most parts. There are some performance markings such as *L2* and *4* (quarzo) in the violin parts. A large red watermark "Pre View Only Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

58

59

60

61

62

63

64 68

Vln. 1A
mp marcato *f*

Vln. 2A
mp marcato *f*

Vla. A
mp marcato *f*

Vcl. A
mp marcato *f*

D.B. A
mp marcato *f*

Vln. 1B
mp marcato *f*

Vln. 2B
mp marcato *f*

Vla. B
mp marcato *f*

Vcl. B
mp marcato *f*

D.B. B
mp marcato *f*

Vln. C
mp *f*

Vla. C
mp *f*

Vcl. C
mp *f*

D.B. C
mp *f*

Pno.
mp *f*

64 65 66 67 68 69

72

Vln. 1A

Vln. 2A

Vla. A

Vcl. A

D.B. A

Vln. 1B

Vln. 2B

Vla. B

Vcl. B

D.B. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vcl. C

D.B. C

Pno.

70 71 73 74 75

80

Vln. 1A

Vln. 2A

Vla. A

Vcl. A

D.B. A

Vln. 1B

Vln. 2B

Vla. B

Vcl. B

D.B. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vcl. C

D.B. C

Pno.

76 77 78 79 80 81

melody!

Vln. 1A

Vln. 2A

Vla. A

Vcl. A

D.B. A

Vln. 1B

Vln. 2B

Vla. B

Vcl. B

D.B. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vcl. C

D.B. C

Pno.

82 83 84 85 86 87

88

Vln. 1A *ff*

Vln. 2A *ff* (V)

Vla. A *ff*

Vcl. A *ff*

D.B. A *ff*

Vln. 1B *ff*

Vln. 2B *ff*

Vla. B *ff*

Vcl. B *ff*

D.B. B *ff*

Vln. C *ff*

Vla. C *ff*

Vcl. C *ff*

D.B. C *ff*

Pno. *ff*

88 89 90 91 92

96

Vln. 1A

Vln. 2A

Vla. A

Vcl. A

D.B. A

Vln. 1B

Vln. 2B

Vla. B

Vcl. B

D.B. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vcl. C

D.B. C

Pno.

93 94 95 96 97

The image shows a page of a musical score for strings and piano, covering measures 98 to 102. The score is arranged in a system with 14 staves. The instruments are: Vln. 1A, Vln. 2A, Vla. A, Vcl. A, D.B. A, Vln. 1B, Vln. 2B, Vla. B, Vcl. B, D.B. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vcl. C, D.B. C, and Pno. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. A large red watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score. The word "rit." is written above the first staff at measure 101. The piano part (Pno.) is written in grand staff notation. Measure numbers 98, 99, 100, 101, and 102 are printed below the piano staff.