Young String Orchestra

Grade 2



Duncan's Tale

George Sweet

YAS75 INSTRUMENTATION

Full Sc	01	Æ	è													1
Violin	l															8
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Viola																5
Cello																5
Bass																5
Piano																1

Program Notes

Duncan's Tale is the story of a small Cairn Terrier who gets into various forms of "household mischief" while his owners are away. The piece offers the viola section a chance to play much of the primary melodic material, as opposed to purely accompaniment. Make sure that the accents in the main theme at m. 3 are played with full value. This provides a contrast to the *staccato* notes that accompany them. The melodic section that follows at m. 13 should be played in a warm *legato* style, contrary to the other sections. This is the point where the violas enter for the first time with the melodic material. At m. 21 a denser variation of the theme leads to an abrupt "half-step" modulation. The viola interjections should be played with a "fiddle-like" quality. The piece then returns to the original material before fading out on the *ostinato* pattern that opens the piece. The final *pianissimo pizzicato* note represents the point when the "adventures" are over, as the owners have returned and Duncan hides.

About the Composer

George Sweet was born in York County, South Carolina, in 1979. He received Masters Degrees in Composition and Conducting from Northern Arizona University and a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Mars Hill College in North Carolina. As a student, George was the winner of the 2004–2005 Music Teachers National Association Young Artist Composition Competition, sponsored by Warner Bros. Publications, for both the state of Arizona and all of the Southwest Region. His compositions have been performed throughout the United States and have been heard at various Honor and Regional Band Festivals, Disney's Magic Music Days, and the College Band Directors National Association Southwest Conference. His various commissions include those from professional performers, public schools, university ensembles, and also a video game under a University Grant from the Hewlett Foundation. George has been a public school band and orchestra director in both North Carolina and Florida and was an instructor of music theory at Northern Arizona University. For more information, please contact www. georgesweet.net.







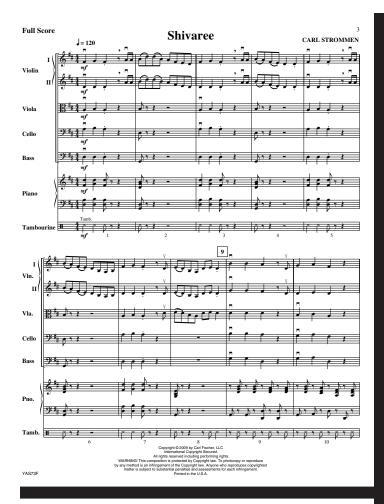








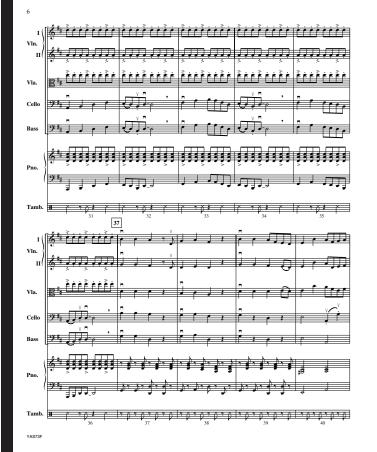


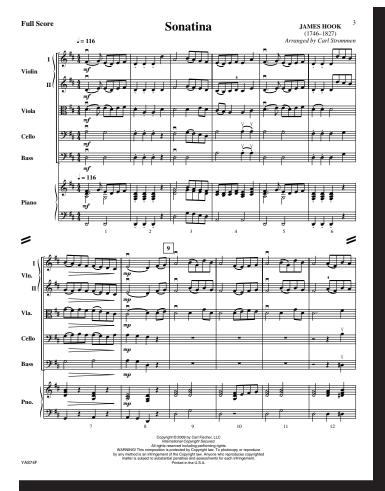






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