Young String Orchestra

Grade 2



The Corsairs

George Sweet

YAS83 INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score		. 1
Violin I		
Violin II		. 8
Violin III (Viola T.C.)		. 2
Viola		. 5
Cello		. 5
Bass		. 5
Piano		. 1

Program Notes

The Corsairs depicts the many adventures of a band of pirates on the high seas. The introduction should be dark and mysterious, foreshadowing the events to come. The main theme is presented at m. 9, passed to the lower voices at m. 25, and joined by a counter melody in the 1st violins at m. 33. Be sure to follow the articulations and play these passages with lots of forward energy. A melodic B section appears at m. 41. This should be played in a flowing lyrical style contrasting to the rhythmic activity of the main theme. The dramatic ritard at the end of this section lead to a pizzicato statement of the main theme. The introductory material reappears at m. 75 and leads to a final climactic passage which brings the piece to a close. Make sure to start the sudden piano dynamic at m. 77 as soft as possible to make room for the long crescendo that pushes the piece to its conclusion.

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.

GEORGE SWEET



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YAS83F







The Carl Fischer Performance Series for Orchestra and String Orchestra has four different performance levels to provide you with a highly focused repertoire for your orchestra and string orchestra. Each level has been carefully designed and graded, within specific guidelines, so that each piece in a level will work for your ensemble when it achieves that level. Each level is also color-coded for ease in finding the series that will be appropriate for your orchestra, as it develops.

Within each grade level, you will find selections in a variety of styles and genres designed to meet all of your performance and teaching needs. The Carl Fischer composers and arrangers are some of the most respected writers in the business. Their music is dynamic, fresh and eminently worthy of your attention.

Young String Orchestra Series

- Playable by second and third year ensembles
- Occasionally extending to third position
- · Keys carefully considered for appropriate difficulty
- Addition of separate second violin and viola parts (also a viola T.C. included)
- An increase in independence of parts over beginning levels

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