First Plus String Orchestra

ERFORMANCE SERIES

Grade 1.5

Road to the Rock Hole

George Sweet

INSTRUMENTATION

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

Program Notes

Road to the Rock Hole portrays various scenes of the woodland area in South Carolina where the composer spent his childhood. It is inspired by a dirt road that crosses many creeks and ultimately leads to the cabin at the end of it.

The introductory material should be lively with special attention paid to the articulations, as they give the piece its forward momentum. The main theme is presented in the second violins and violas at m. 6 and joined by the first violins at m. 14. The B section appears at m. 24, with the melody in the first violins, and the main theme returns at m. 32, with the melody in the lower voices. Throughout this section, passages that are not marked as accented or staccato should be played in a flowing lyrical style, allowing the lush harmonies in the accompaniment to speak. The return of the B section at m. 50 should be driven forward by the staccato quarter notes in the lower voices, arriving at a strong forte dynamic at m. 56. Be sure to perform the piano dynamic at m. 58 as soft as possible, leaving room for the *crescendo* that results in the climactic return of the introductory material at m. 61.

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

Road to the Rock Hole

GEORGE SWEET

















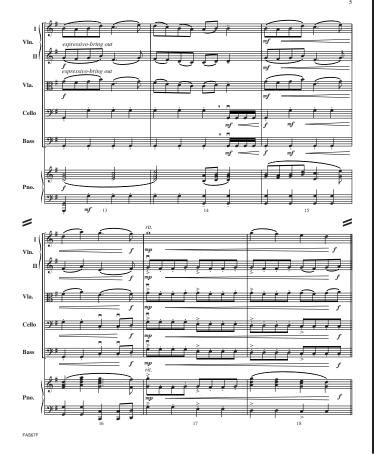
















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