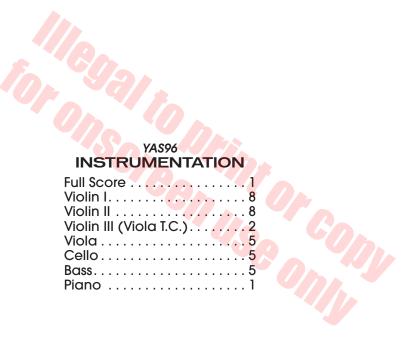
Young String Orchestra

Grade 2



# The Code

## Alan Lee Silva



#### **Program Notes**

Like the underscore of an international spy movie, *The Code* promises drama from the opening bar. The evocative harmonies in F-sharp minor, plus tight moving lines and syncopated rhythms, immediately catch one's ear and give young players a variety of musical challenges — keeping a steady pulse while playing syncopation, maintaining good intonation on an individual melody when it's part of a close voicing, emphasizing counter-melodies as they move in and out of prominence, and playing with accuracy within a group when different techniques are being used in different sections of the group — i.e. m. 20: violins: *legato* and *sul tasto*, viola: *pizzicato*, cellos: *legato* and *espressivo*, basses *staccato* and *marcato*.

The first 19 bars build in intensity, and as it begins to peak the mood immediately shifts at m. 20 to a pastoral, *legato*. The cellos are featured here with a graceful melody, played beautifully with a singing tone. The *sul tasto* high notes in the violins and the *pizzicato* violas are the accompaniment and are played delicately.

Violas are the driving pulse at m. 32 and can bring out the repeated figures there. After a vigorous question and answer section at m. 51, the piece breaks at m. 61 and resumes with a glorious, lush setting at m. 62. Measure 70 is the chase to the end with the full ensemble sparkling, playing driving staccatos to the spirited unison ending.

### **About the Composer**

Alan Lee Silva is a composer, arranger, and orchestrator whose credits include the feature films Cinderella 3 and Enough, and television's 7th Heaven, Brothers and Sisters, and Soul Collector. He scored the independent films Animated American, Full Moon Fables and Eli's Coming and has written songs, arrangements, and background music for theme parks all over the world, including Sea World's Aquatica, Tokyo Disney Sea, Universal Studios Japan and Sesame Street Place.

Alan has enjoyed working with an eclectic mix of clients, including Disney Cruise Lines, Sesame Street, Susan Egan, The Nuclear Whales Saxophone Orchestra, and KISS. His catalogue for Concert Band and String Orchestra is published by Carl Fischer, and his contemporary jazz piece *The Flight* was a favorite on San Francisco radio stations.

Alan lives in Culver City, CA with his wife and two daughters.

#### ALAN LEE SILVA



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