

FULL SCORE

First Plus String Orchestra

Grade 1.5



CARL FISCHER

PERFORMANCE

SERIES

# Arena of the Gladiators

Joseph Compello

FAS75

## INSTRUMENTATION

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Full Score..... | 1 |
| Violin I.....   | 8 |
| Violin II.....  | 8 |
| Viola.....      | 5 |
| Cello.....      | 5 |
| Bass.....       | 5 |
| Piano.....      | 1 |

## About the Composition

*Arena of the Gladiators* is a simple yet effective showpiece for a young string ensemble. While the melodies and harmonies are written in a modern sounding "contest style," the music contains only the pitches of the E-minor scale.

Rhythmically, the music does not subdivide beyond eighth-notes in pairs; however, in order to give the composition a more sophisticated sound, rhythmic patterns do not always fall into conventional, common-time groupings. Overall, the rhythms should project a restless quality, while the melodies and harmonies should convey a foreboding mood.

Since the piece is generally forte or louder, tone quality and overall balance between sections will need attention with young players. The contrasting section at m. 29 should be played legato, but not sweetly. Strive for an antique, dance-like quality.

This arrangement has been recorded by Carl Fischer. The performance is available on-line free of charge. Thank you for selecting this composition. Your comments are always welcome.

–Joseph Compello  
Glen Arm, Maryland, 2012

## About the Composer

Joseph Compello, a native of Carbondale, Pennsylvania, holds degrees in music education from the Peabody Conservatory and Towson University. During his 31-year career as an instrumental music teacher in Maryland, he wrote numerous compositions for his students. In 1994, Andrew Balent began publishing many of these classroom-tested pieces including his debut publication *Cadets on Parade*, and the 1996 best-seller *Rock to the Max, Mr. Sax*. Now retired from teaching with over 100 published works to his credit, Compello continues to draw on his extensive background in music education to compose new music exclusively for Carl Fischer's Performance Series.

His music for young players is now a model for college curricular study by music education students. A master's thesis by Abel Borg entitled "The resourceful and engaging compositions for beginning band by Joseph Compello" is available at: <http://gradworks.umi.com/MR/75/MR75572.html>.

Compello's journey from school teacher to internationally published composer was recently chronicled in the Baltimore Sun. His music is now performed world-wide in venues ranging from school concerts to Carnegie Hall.

## Arena of the Gladiators

Marziale (♩ = ca. 132)

JOSEPH COMPELLO

Violin I *ff* *div.* *V*

Violin II *ff* *V*

Viola *ff* *V*

Cello *ff* *V*

Bass *ff* *V*

Piano *ff*

9 unis. *f*

*poco dim.*

*f*

*poco dim.*

*poco dim.*

*f*

6 7 8 9 10

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Score for Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, Bass, and Piano (Pno.). The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first system covers measures 11 through 16. The Violins I and II parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Viola, Cello, and Bass parts play a similar pattern, with the Cello and Bass parts starting in measure 12. The Piano part plays a complex rhythmic pattern. The score includes dynamic markings *f* (forte) for the Cello, Bass, and Piano parts in measure 12.



Measures 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Score for Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, Bass, and Piano (Pno.). The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The second system covers measures 17 through 22. The Violins I and II parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Viola, Cello, and Bass parts play a similar pattern, with the Cello and Bass parts starting in measure 17. The Piano part plays a complex rhythmic pattern. The score includes dynamic markings *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte) for the Viola, Cello, Bass, and Piano parts in measures 20 and 21.



Measures 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

I Vln. *mf*  
 II Vln.  
 Vla.  
 Cello  
 Bass  
 Pno.

23 24 25 26 27 28

I Vln. *mf*  
 II Vln. *mf*  
 Vla. *mf*  
 Cello *mf*  
 Bass *mf*  
 Pno. *mf*

29 *piu legato* 30 31 32 33 34

FAS75F

48

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

47 48 49 50 51

V

**ff**

V

V

V

V

**ff**

**ff**

**ff**

**ff**

52 53 54 55 56

Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, Bass, Piano, and strings. The score includes a large red watermark reading "For on-screen use only".

Measures 57-67 are shown. The score includes a large red watermark reading "For on-screen use only".

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