First Plus String Orchestra

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CARL FISCHER
ERFORMANCE
SERIES

Grade 1.5

Night Dance

About the Composition

Students will enjoy this energetic, intriguing piece where all instruments have active parts and get a turn at melodic themes. Written in $\frac{4}{4}$ time the accented, tied quarter notes across the bar line add to both the variety and energy of the composition. The key is E minor with hints of the Aeolian mode since there are no leading tones. A second theme in G major appears at m. 19 and includes four measures of pizzicato in all instruments except cello.

Basically the composition is straight-forward, but the staccato quarter notes must be observed. Although we teach our students not to "clip" either notes or the ends of phrases, these staccato notes are written for their melodic effect. The accompanying quarter notes without staccato marks on beat 3 should be played for their full values to contrast the melodic short notes (mm. 3, 5, etc.). This is a great piece for both concert and contest.

About the Composer

David Hinds received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from West Texas A&M University and Master of Music Education from the University of North Texas. He has taught both band and orchestra on the middle school and high school levels in Amarillo, Texas and played with the Amarillo Symphony for many years during his teaching career. He recently retired as a middle school orchestra director. David currently conducts the Amarillo College Suzuki Orchestra and the Amarillo College Chamber Orchestra. He is a member of ASCAP, TMEA, TODA, TMAA and ASTA. David serves as an adjudicator for UIL orchestra contests and has served as a region orchestra conductor/clinician. He has several string orchestra compositions published through Latham Music some of which appear on various state contest lists.















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