

The Gift

Aria for String Orchestra

William Hofeldt

Grade 3 - Set C

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Full Score
8 1st Violin
8 2nd Violin
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 String Bass

PRICES

SOP7C	Full Score and Set of Parts	\$35.00
SOP7F	Extra Full Score	\$5.00

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About the Composer

William Hofeldt, originally from Chicago, now resides in Waunakee, Wisconsin. Best known for his compositions for school ensembles, he has several works published and has twice won the National School Orchestra Association composition contest. Having taught orchestra for 15 years, Mr. Hofeldt has experience with a variety of student levels and is very familiar with the literature needs of public school string programs.

Notes to the Conductor

The Gift is a piece appropriate for a variety of concert settings, and is designed to be mastered with a minimum of rehearsal time. It was originally written in honor of the birth of the composer's son, Matthew.

Owing to the wide range of student skill levels often found within and between school orchestras, the use of printed fingerings has been avoided. At one end, the music can be played predominantly in 1st position with occasional use of 3rd position in the 1st violin part (specifically, in measures 30-31, 38, and 48-52) and half, 2nd, and 3rd positions in the bass part (for example, 2nd position in measure 2, half position in measure 4, and 3rd position in measure 32). Alternatively, the piece can be realized with extensive position work in all parts for more advanced players. The selection of a suitable fingering scheme is left to the discretion and judgement of the conductor.

Dynamics should be interpreted literally, as melodic material, which is interspersed among all parts, is marked at a higher level than the corresponding supporting lines. Strict adherence to these markings will help ensure a proper balance within the ensemble.

The goal throughout is a sustained style of playing, with bow changes to be executed as subtly as practicable. There is a slight pause notated before the sounding of the final chord that should be observed. Finally, the metronome marking indicated is offered merely as a suggested tempo and, due to the nature of the music, is open to other possible options.

The Gift

Aria for String Orchestra

approx. perf. time: 4' 00"

Adagio sostenuto ♩ = 63**William Hofeldt**

Violin I *p* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mp* *div.*

Violin II *pp* *p*

Viola *pp* *p*

Cello *pp* *p*

Bass *pp* *p* *poco rit.* *a tempo*

The first system of the musical score for 'The Gift' is for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. It is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Adagio sostenuto at 63 beats per minute. The score includes dynamic markings (p, pp, mp, div.), articulation (accents), and performance instructions (poco rit., a tempo). A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is visible across the score.

Violin I *a tempo*

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

The second system of the musical score continues the parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. It maintains the same tempo and key signature. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings. A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is visible across the score.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

mf
unis.

mp

mp

mp

mp

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

15

V

V

V

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

20

f

div.

mf

f

mf

mf

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

25

v

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

mf

mp

dim.

div.

unis.

mp

dim.

mp

dim.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

30

div.

mp

unis.

mf

mp

mp

mp

mp

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

35

V

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

40

div.

mf

f

mf

V

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

45 unis.

mf cresc.

mp cresc.

mp cresc.

mp cresc.

mp cresc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

mf

mf

mp

mp

mp

unis.

3

50

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

55

poco rit.

a tempo rallentando

mp

p

p

p

p

poco rit.

a tempo rallentando

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

60

div.

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

The musical score is for five string instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is G major (one sharp) and the time signature is 4/4. The score shows measures 59 and 60. In measure 60, a 'div.' (divisi) instruction is present, indicating that the strings are to play in divisi. The dynamics are marked 'pp' (pianissimo). The instruments are arranged in a standard orchestral layout. A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

SAMPLE

SAMPLE

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