# THE GATES OF JANUS

### By Richard Meyer



#### PROGRAM NOTES

Janus was a Greek god who held many titles, among which was the "god of duality" (opposites), and this colorful and creative piece explores duality in music through two contrasting melodies. The first is slow and soft, while the second is fast and loud. In all, there are six such "opposites" between the two melodies: slow/fast, soft/loud, minor/major, legato/staccato, low pitch/high pitch, and dissonant/consonant. Students will love discovering for themselves these opposites and will increase their musical awareness and playing ability in the process.

After the two melodies are introduced, they are then heard simultaneously as a nod to Janus himself, who had two faces and was able to see in two opposite directions at the same time. This educational selection is a great springboard for discussions as to how music conveys different emotions.



#### Note from the Editor

In orchestral music, there are many editorial markings that are open for interpretation. In an effort to maintain consistency and clarity you may find some of these markings in this piece. In general, markings for fingerings, bowing patterns, and other items will only be marked with their initial appearance. For a more detailed explanation of our editorial markings, please download the free PDF at www.alfred.com/stringeditorial.

X extended position

– shift 9 bow lift/reset (b), (t), (t)
high or low fingerings

☐ ☐ or ∨ ∨ hooked bowings





## The Gates of Janus

FULL SCORE Duration - 3:20

By Richard Meyer (ASCAP)























