

ADAGIO CANTABILE

From CINNAMON GROVE

R. NATHANIEL DETT

Arranged by DIÓN MORALES

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor Score
- 8 Violin 1
- 8 Violin 2
- 5 Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Violoncello
- 5 Double Bass



Please note: Our band and orchestra music is collated by an automatic high-speed system.
The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.



THE ARRANGER

Di3n (pronounced “dee-oan”) Morales was born in Chicago and currently lives there with his wife and two daughters. He began his orchestral studies as a high school student at Lane Tech College Prep High School in the Chicago Public School system. He received his undergraduate and master’s degrees in music education from VanderCook College of Music. He has taught elementary and middle school orchestra in Des Plaines District 62 since 2010. The arranging of music by minority composers for school orchestra programs is a project that he has been developing since 2020. Music from this project has been performed at the Midwest Band and Orchestra clinic and has won multiple awards.

Alongside his arrangements, Di3n is also passionate about writing original works for student ensembles at all levels. As an educator and composer, he uses his experience in the classroom to compose pieces that students enjoy while also providing appropriate challenges for each ensemble.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Robert Nathaniel Dett (1882 – 1943) was a composer of African descent, renowned for blending Negro folk music with European art traditions. He excelled not only as a composer but also as a choir leader, pianist, teacher, poet, and writer. His cultural interests were broad, encompassing ancient Hebrew legends, African chants, and Hindu poetry, all of which influenced his music. In 1908, he became the first person of African descent to graduate from Oberlin College with degrees in piano and composition. He earned a Master’s Degree at the Eastman School of Music and also received honorary doctorates from Howard University and Oberlin.

Raised in Niagara Falls, Ontario and later New York, Dett’s musical journey began at an early age with exposure to popular salon and classical music. After hearing a performance by the Kneisel Quartet at Oberlin, he wrote, “Suddenly it seemed I heard again the frail voice of my long departed grandmother calling across the years, and in a rush of emotion which stirred my spirit to its very center, the meaning of the songs which had given her soul such peace was revealed to me.”

This arrangement comes from the second of a four-movement work called *Cinnamon Grove*, originally written for solo piano. The work was inspired by his love of poetry, with the first three movements including a quote from a different poet before the music. The second movement’s quotation is from “Gitanjali 2” by Rabindranath Tagore:

When thou commandest me to sing it seems that my heart would break with pride; and I look to thy face, and tears come to my eyes.

Tagore was the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize for literature in 1913 after he translated the poems from his original Bengali text.

—Di3n Morales

DURATION: 2:45

ADAGIO CANTABILE

From CINNAMON GROVE

R. NATHANIEL DETT

Arranged by
DIÓN MORALES
(ASCAP)

Adagio Cantabile (♩ = 72)

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola
(Violin 3)

Violoncello

Double Bass

5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 13 14

div.

H3

-3

4

-2

-1

mp

mf

p



17

Vln. 1 L1 V 4 div.

Vln. 2 V

Vla. V

Vcl. div.

D.B. V

15 16 17 18 19

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 4

Vla. 4

Vcl.

D.B.

20 21 22 24

f

div.

25

Vln. 1 V L1 L4 H2

Vln. 2

Vla. V

Vcl. V

D.B. V

25 26 27 28 29

p

rit. 33 a tempo rit.

div.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

30 31 32 33 34 35

a tempo

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

36 37 38 39 40 41

rit. 45 a tempo

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

42 43 44 45 46

Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass

47 48 49 50 51 52

decresc. decresc. decresc. decresc. decresc. div. div.

Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass

53 54 55 56 57 58

p *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass

59 60 61 62 63 64

pp *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

div. div.