

Kjos String Orchestra  
Grade 3  
Full Conductor Score  
SO396F  
\$7.00

Shirl Jae Atwell

# Serenity



Neil A. Kjos Music Company • *Publisher*



## The Arranger

**Shirl Jae Atwell** earned her Bachelors from Kansas State Teachers College and a Master of Music Theory/Composition degree at the University of Louisville. She also completed four years of post-graduate work in composition at the University of South Carolina.

In 1984, Ms. Atwell won the Clifford Shaw Memorial Award for Kentucky Composers; was commissioned to write ***Fear Not, Little Flock*** for the 175th anniversary of the Little Flock Baptist Church; and saw the New York City debut of her first opera, ***Sagegrass***. In 1991, another of her operas, ***Esta Hargis***, was premiered at Emporia State University in Kansas, followed shortly by the 1992 premiere of *Dandelion*, a work for string orchestra premiered by the Jefferson County All-County Middle School Orchestra. The Southern Baptist Seminary Orchestra in Louisville premiered her ***Movements Four South***, an orchestral suite in 1993. That year also saw the placement of six Shirl Jae Atwell scores in the permanent collection of the Paris Bibliotheque Internationale de Musique Contemporaine at the invitation of the Contemporary Music International Information Service.

Ms. Atwell was named the 1996 Winner of the National School Orchestra Association Composition Contest with her original work ***Modus á 4***. She is also the winner of the Texas Orchestra Directors Association Contest with her string orchestra piece entitled ***Drifen***.

***Lucy***, the ballet, with music by Ms. Atwell and choreography by Alun Jones, was premiered by the Louisville Ballet in January 1999. ***Lucy*** was inspired by the discovery of a 3.2 million year old skeleton, and was the subject of a Kentucky Education Television documentary that was aired on November 10, 1999. In June 2000, the televised production of ***Lucy*** was awarded the Arts & Culture Emmy by the Ohio Valley Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences; in July a Certificate of Merit was awarded to ***Lucy*** by Unda-USA, the National Catholic Association for program performance. In 2002, the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra of North Carolina recorded the music to the ballet ***Lucy***, which is available on Albany Records. The CD also includes the orchestral suite ***Movements Four South***, and three string orchestra works, ***Pulsar***, ***Meander***, and ***Drifen***.

Ms. Atwell has been commissioned to write works for the McEachern High School String Orchestra of Powder Springs, Georgia; the Oceanfront String Orchestra of Virginia Beach, VA; and a full orchestra piece for the 2007 Kentucky All-State Orchestra. In the fall of 2008, Ms. Atwell was commissioned to write a full orchestra work, in honor of Lincoln's bicentennial, which was premiered by the Louisville Orchestra in February 2009. She has also completed work on her second ballet suite entitled ***Evoquer***.

An active composer with many commissions and publications to her credit, Ms. Atwell recently retired from full-time teaching with the Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville, Kentucky. She has served on retainer for JCPS as an interim and substitute orchestra teacher, and dedicates all available time composing, conducting, arranging, and presenting. She maintains active memberships in ASCAP, NAfME, ASTA, Texas Orchestra Directors Association, and the Kentucky Music Educators Association.

## The Composition

Serenity is the state of being calm, peaceful, and untroubled. The melody in this work moves among the voices in a flowing, relaxed manner that enables one to contemplate a serene state of mind.

Though ***Serenity*** has the key signature for G minor, it is G natural minor which is used with temporary diversions into the Dorian mode built on G. Students should become thoroughly acquainted with this natural minor scale and its Dorian version. String bass players need to practice playing in half position for this piece. It will make the execution of the bass part a lot easier.

## Instrumentation List (Set C)

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

**Credit:** The jacket and score photograph was taken at Robertson & Sons Violin Shop, Inc., Albuquerque, NM. For more information about their services, visit: [www.robertsonviolins.com](http://www.robertsonviolins.com).

Additional scores and parts are available.

To hear a recording of this piece or any other Kjos publication, go to **[www.kjos.com](http://www.kjos.com)**.

# Serenity

Full Conductor Score  
Approx. performance time—2:20

Shirl Jae Atwell

Gracefully (♩ = 104)

Violins 1 *mf*

Violins 2 *mf*

Viola *mf*

Cello *mf*

String Bass *mf*

6 Vlns. 1 *mf*

6 Vlns. 2 *mf*

7 Vla. *mp*

8 Cello *mp*

8 Str. Bass *mp*

9 Vlns. 1 *mf*

9 Vlns. 2 *mf*

9 Vla. *mp*

9 Cello *mp*

9 Str. Bass *mp*

11 Vlns. 1

11 Vlns. 2

11 Vla.

11 Cello

11 Str. Bass

12

13

14

15

16 17 18 19 20

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mp*

Cello *mp*

Str. Bass *mp*

21 22 23 24 25

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

26 27 28 29 30

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass *mf*

31 32 33 34 35

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

36 37 38 39 40

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*f*

*mf*

41 42 43 44 45 46

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*slight rit.*

*ff*

*f*

*ff*

**47** a tempo

1 Vlns. *f*

2 Vlns. *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

48 49 50 51

52 53 54 55 56 **57**

1 Vlns. *mf*

2 Vlns. *mf*

Vla. *mp*

Cello *mp*

Str. Bass *mp*

1 2 2 4

58 59 60 61 62 63

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla. *V*

Cello

Str. Bass

64 65 66 67 68 69

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mp*

Cello *mp*

Str. Bass *mp*

70 71 72 73 74 75

Vlns. 1 *f* *mf* **poco rit.**

Vlns. 2 *f* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mf*

Cello *f* *mf*

Str. Bass *f* *mf*

76 77 78 79 80 81

Vlns. 1 *f* *ten.*

Vlns. 2 *f* *ten.*

Vla. *f* *ten.* *V.*

Cello *f* *ten.* *V.*

Str. Bass *f* *ten.*

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