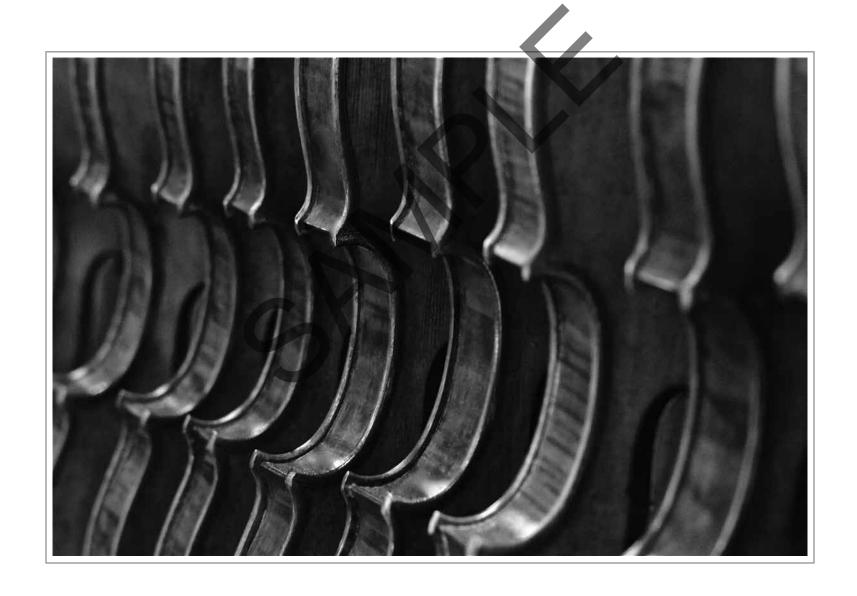
Bud Woodruff

Alegria! (Joy!)



The Composer



Bud Woodruff is an accomplished educator, conductor, composer and arranger. He recently retired from the Deer Park Independent School District (Deerpark, Texas) after a 16-year tenure teaching orchestra (grades 6-12) and serving as head of the orchestra program for 14 years.

Mr. Woodruff graduated from the University of Houston with a bachelor's and master's degree in music. While there, he studied composition with Michael Horvit, conducting with A. Clyde Roller, and James T. Matthews. After graduating, he performed with the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra for 22 years, and for 16 years, served as the music director and orchestra conductor of the Pasadena, Texas Philharmonic Society. In addition to his many achievements in Deer Park, he has also conducted All-Region Orchestras in Texas and Arkansas.

Notes from the Composer

I noticed that one particular definition of "Paso Doble" (meaning "double step" in Spanish) stated that a Paso Doble was a stylized dance in 2/4 or cut time, and performed at a tempo of I 20 beats per minute. I feel that *Alegría!* does not work well at that tempo unless the orchestra is filled with players who can sustain that speed and keep it really clean. I grew up hearing Paso Dobles, and I cannot recall hearing that it went that fast and yet preserved the remarkable, inherent style. In my opinion, if one thinks in terms of marches, it is much more akin to the tempo of a regimental march rather than a quickstep. I have also chosen to write *Alegría!* in 4/4 meter rather than 2/4, because I feel it is easier to read, easier to see the phrases and sequences, and requires fewer ties across the bar line.

I have tried whenever possible to write bowings that facilitate dynamics changes, and there are some, including the melody at measure 33 and the cello line at measure 41, that imply hairpin dynamics, and IS what Lintended to be heard, even though the melodic parts and cellos are dynamically in opposition at 41. A similar place occurs at measure 53.

"sul tasto" has several interpretations, but my intention is that the upper strings move their bow path to the end of the fingerboard, which should give them a light, 'flutey' color. Players will need to use less pronation and greater bow pace. "ordinaire" (ord.) simply indicates an end of the "sul tasto" bowing section and the resumption of the typical bow path style.

"a piacere" (meas. 52) means "at the player's discretion," which, in this case, means "at the conductor's discretion." One conductor may take those three notes in tempo and another may place short fermatas over them. One conductor may instantly resume tempo in measure 53, another may conduct a gradual accelerando back to tempo over several measures. Every conductor must decide what fits their own musical personality best, balanced against what is best for their orchestra.

Through most of this piece, the basses have a critical function of defining the beat as well as the chord progression, and must keep their bows firmly set at the beginning of every note. They also need to pay very close attention to their bow paths in order to get a clean but big sound, especially when moving quickly on the E and A strings, such as in measure 51.

Thank you for acquiring Alegría! and I trust your orchestra members will love playing it!

-Bud Woodruff

Instrumentation List (Set C)

8 - 1st Violin 5 - Cello 8 - 2nd Violin 5 - String Bass

5 - Viola I - Full Conductor Score

Additional scores and parts are available.

To hear a recording of this work, or any other Kjos publication, please visit www.kjos.com.

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Alegría! (Joy!)

Full Conductor Score Approx. performance time—2:50

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