

On Guard!

For String Orchestra, Grade 1.5
by Katie O'Hara LaBrie (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
3 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Cello
5 - Bass
1 - Rehearsal Piano

Note from the Editor:

This driving grade 1.5 piece is written in e minor and focuses on articulation.
All parts are introduced to C natural, with the exception of the Violas who learn D# on the D string.
The Cello and Bass match.
- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$55.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$10.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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On Guard!

By Katie O'Hara LaBrie, Grade 1.5

Program Notes:

Swords at the ready! Prepare for a duel in this driving new work by Katie O'Hara LaBrie where strong accents ring out the sounds of slashing swords and precise pizzicato parallels the fancy footwork of a fierce fencer. "On Guard!"

Educational Features:

I wrote this to be an accessible piece with limited range, but a lot of excitement and focus on articulation. The main goal is for students to match bow length, weight and speed for the various articulations that appear: detaché, marcato, accents and staccato. The tenuto notes should be played with long bow strokes – I imagine these notes as the swords slashing through the air.

The melodies that contain half notes should be played with a very broad, full bow stroke. The staccato should be played with a light horizontal stroke rather than a super vertical one so it doesn't become too crisp.

In the pizzicato section encourage the students to breathe in rests to help with subdivision. I always like to imagine the fencers taking calculated almost dance-like steps in this section.

Sorry in advance if your students start pretending their bows are swords.... Tell them I said to keep their "swords" on the string!

– Katie O'Hara LaBrie



About the Composer

Katie O'Hara LaBrie is a composer, conductor, clinician, and cellist from Northern Virginia and is the Orchestra Editor for Randall Standridge Music Publications. An educator at heart, Mrs. LaBrie spent the first 15 years of her career teaching orchestra in Fairfax County, Virginia. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from St. Olaf College, where she studied under Steven Amundson, and Masters of Music in Instrumental Conducting from George Mason University, where she studied with Anthony Maiello.

As a composer, Mrs. LaBrie's inspiration grows from many sources such as family and nature, but primarily draws from her experiences as a music educator. She enjoys creating new music with the goal of being educationally sound, pleasing to audiences, and above all, fun for the players. She is passionate about sharing music with others and teaching students how to practice with purpose.

Mrs. LaBrie is the founding conductor of the Fairfax Chamber Players and co-creator of "the Big IDEA" practice method. In 2022, she was honored as one of Yamaha's "40 Under 40," for her action, courage, creativity, and commitment to growth in the music education field. She lives in Fairfax, VA with her husband Joe, who is a middle school band director, and their budding musician, Liam. Learn more at www.katieoharalabrie.com.

On Guard!

Score
Grade 1.5
Duration 1:50

Katie O'Hara LaBrie
(ASCAP)

Fierce ♩ = 138

The musical score is for a piece titled "On Guard!" by Katie O'Hara LaBrie. It is a Grade 1.5 score with a duration of 1:50. The tempo is marked "Fierce" with a quarter note equal to 138 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score is for a string quartet (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass) and a Rehearsal Piano. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 5, and the second system contains measures 6 through 10. The score includes dynamics such as *f* (forte) and *fz* (forzando). The score is written for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Rehearsal Piano. The score is in 4/4 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked "Fierce" with a quarter note equal to 138 beats per minute. The score is divided into two systems, with measures 1-5 in the first system and measures 6-10 in the second system. The score includes dynamics like *f* (forte) and *fz* (forzando). The score is written for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Rehearsal Piano.

11

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) *mp*

Violin 2 (Vln. 2) *mp* ^{L2}

Viola (Vla.) *mp*

Violoncello (Vc.) *mf*

Double Bass (D.B.) *mf*

Piano (Pno.) *mp*

11 12 13 14 15

19

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) *f*

Violin 2 (Vln. 2) *f*

Viola (Vla.) *f*

Violoncello (Vc.) *f*

Double Bass (D.B.) *f*

Piano (Pno.) *f*

16 17 18 19 20

On Guard! - Score

3

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 Pno.

21 22 23 24 25

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 Pno.

26 27 28 29 30

4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

31 32 33 34 35 36

37

arco

mf arco

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

37 38 39 40 41

42 43 44 45 46 47

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

sub. *p* *f*

sub. *p* *f*

sub. *p* *f*

sub. *p*

48 49 50 51 52

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

f

f

f

f

57 div.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

53 54 55 56 57 58

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

59 60 61 62 63 64