

Miriam Danced by the Red Sea

For String Orchestra, Grade 5
by Avner Dorman (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

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

Note from the Editor:

A lively and rhythmic portrayal of Israeli dance culture this grade 5 piece will push your students' melodic and rhythmic boundaries, with multitude of accidentals and syncopation.

* A Cello 2 part (alternate to bass) is available as a free download at randallstandridge.com

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$75.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$15.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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Miriam Danced by the Red Sea

By Avner Dorman, Grade 5

Program Notes:

Miriam Danced by the Red Sea is a lively and rhythmic celebration of cultural heritage, composed in 2023 for the Adams/Cumberland County Music Educators Association (ACMEA/CCMEA) High School Orchestra. Written for string orchestra with an optional tambourine part, this piece captures the essence of Israeli dance, tracing its lineage from the ancient tradition of Jewish women's dances to its vibrant presence today. Drawing inspiration from the biblical story of Miriam, who led the women in dance and song after crossing the Red Sea, the music symbolizes joy, liberation, and the enduring spirit of a culture. The optional tambourine part adds an authentic touch, evoking the timbrel (a type of hand drum) that Miriam is said to have played, though the piece remains complete and effective even without this percussion element. The composition explores rich harmonies and dynamic rhythms, inviting performers and listeners alike on a journey through time and culture. "Miriam Dances by the Red Sea" celebrates resilience, communal joy, and the power of music to connect us with our heritage and each other. As you listen, allow yourself to be transported to the shores of the Red Sea, feeling the rhythm of thousands of years of tradition pulsing through every note.



About the Composer

Avner Dorman is an award-winning composer, conductor, and educator. He has spent most of his career writing for professional orchestras and opera houses. Some of the world's best orchestras have commissioned and performed his works. These include the Cleveland Orchestra, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic. Dorman's music has garnered numerous awards and prizes. He holds a doctorate in composition from the Juilliard School. Dorman currently serves as an Associate Professor of Music Theory and Composition at the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College.

Visit www.avnerdormanmusic.com for more.

Miriam Danced by the Red Sea

Score
Grade 5
Duration ca. 3:15

Avner Dorman
(ASCAP)

Energetic ♩ = 90–108

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola
(Violin 3)

Cello

Double Bass
(Cello 2)

Tambourine

1 2 3 4 5 6

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Tamb.

7 8 9 10 11 12

11

Handwritten musical score for measures 13 through 17. The score is for a string quartet and a tambourine. The instruments are Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Tamb. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked *f* (forte) for all instruments. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Handwritten Standard Preview Only" is overlaid on the score.

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

D.B. *f*

Tamb. *f*

13 14 15 16 17

Handwritten musical score for measures 18 through 22. The score is for a string quartet and a tambourine. The instruments are Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Tamb. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked *f* (forte) for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B., and *mp* (mezzo-piano) for the Tamb. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Handwritten Standard Preview Only" is overlaid on the score.

Vln. 1 *f* *mf*

Vln. 2 *f* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mp*

Vc. *f* *mp*

D.B. *f*

Tamb. *f* *p*

18 19 20 21 22

23

23

Vln. 1 *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vln. 2 *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vla. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f* *p* *f*

D.B. *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *p* *f*

Tamb. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

23 24 25

Vln. 1 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vln. 2 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vla. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

D.B. *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

Tamb. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

26 27 28

31

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Tamb.

29 30 31 32 33 34

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Tamb.

35 36 37 38

div.

unis.

Measures 39-42 of the score. The instrumentation includes Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Tambourine. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4 at measure 40. Dynamics include *sf* (sforzando) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score features various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and fingerings.

39 40 41 42

Measures 43-46 of the score. The instrumentation includes Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Tambourine. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 at measure 45. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *f* (forte). The score includes performance instructions such as "Sul A*" and "Sul A* f". Measure 45 is marked with a box containing the number 45.

43 44 45 46

* Highest note possible on A string

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass
Tambourine

47 48 49 50 51 52

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass
Tambourine

53 54 55 56 57

58 59 60 61 62

Vln. 1 *fp* *f*

Vln. 2 *fp* *f*

Vla. *f* *ff*

Vc. *f* *ff*

D.B. *mp* *mf* *f* *ff*

Tamb. *f*

63 64 65 66 67 68

Vln. 1 *ff* *p*

Vln. 2 *ff* *p*

Vla. *ff* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vc. 1 *ff* *p*

Vc. 2 *ff* *p* pizz.

D.B. *mf*

Tamb. *f* *p*

Sheet music for measures 69-73. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello 1 (Vc. 1), Violoncello 2 (Vc. 2), Double Bass (D.B.), and Tambourine (Tamb.).

Measures 69-72 are in 4/4 time. Measure 73 is in 4/4 time.

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) starts with *fp* (fortissimo piano) in measures 69-72, then *f* (forte) in measure 73. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 73.

Violin 2 (Vln. 2) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 69-72, then *f* (forte) in measure 73. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 73.

Viola (Vla.) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 69-72, then *f* (forte) in measure 73. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 73.

Violoncello 1 (Vc. 1) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 69-72, then *f* (forte) in measure 73. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 73.

Violoncello 2 (Vc. 2) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 69-72, then *f* (forte) in measure 73. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 73.

Double Bass (D.B.) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 69-72, then *f* (forte) in measure 73. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 73.

Tambourine (Tamb.) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 69-72, then *f* (forte) in measure 73. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 73.

Sheet music for measures 74-76. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Tambourine (Tamb.).

Measures 74-76 are in 2/4 time.

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 74-76. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 76.

Violin 2 (Vln. 2) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 74-76. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 76.

Viola (Vla.) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 74-76. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 76.

Violoncello (Vc.) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 74-76. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 76.

Double Bass (D.B.) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 74-76. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 76.

Tambourine (Tamb.) starts with *f* (forte) in measures 74-76. It features a melodic line with a trill in measure 76.

77

Vln. 1 *ff*

Vln. 2 *ff*

Vla. *ff feroce*

Vc. *ff feroce*

D.B. *ff feroce*

Tamb. *mf*

77 78 79 80 81 82

Vln. 1 *ff feroce* *Sul G*

Vln. 2 *ff feroce* *Sul G*

Vla. *ff sempre*

Vc. *ff sempre*

D.B. *ff sempre*

Tamb.

83 84 85 86 87 88

Handball Standalone Preview Only

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Tamb.

89 90 91 92 93

fp *fp*

div.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Tamb.

94 95 96 97 98

fp *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

99

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Tamb.

99 100 101

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Tamb.

102 103 104 105

non div.

p *mf* *f*

f *mf* *f*

f *mf* *f*

f *mf* *f*

f *mf* *f*

f *mf* *f*

106 107 108 109 110

Vln. 1 *ff*

Vln. 2 *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

D.B. *ff*

Tamb.

111 112 113 114 115

Vln. 1 *div.*
full and joyous

Vln. 2 *0*
full and joyous

Vla. *full and joyous*

Vc. 1 *full and joyous*

Vc. 2 *full and joyous*

D.B. *full and joyous*

Tamb. *f*

non div.

Musical score for measures 116-121. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Tamb. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 118 features a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 120 contains a whole rest for the Tambourine.

Measures: 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121

Musical score for measures 122-125. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Tamb. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 124 is marked with a box containing the number 124. The time signature changes to 4/4 in measure 124. The Tambourine part starts in measure 123 with a piano (*p*) dynamic and changes to a forte (*f*) dynamic in measure 124.

Measures: 122, 123, 124, 125

Score for Miriam Danced by the Red Sea, measures 126-127.

Instrumentation: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., Tamb.

Measures 126 and 127 are marked with dynamics: *sub. p*, *mf*, *mp*, and *f*.

Score for Miriam Danced by the Red Sea, measures 128-132.

Instrumentation: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., Tamb.

Measures 128-132 are marked with dynamics: *mf*, *ff*, *p*, and *f*. Measure 128 includes a *div.* (divisi) marking for the Vc. part.