

The Pony Express

Brian Holmes

1 Full Score

8 Violin 1

8 Violin 2

5 Viola

5 Cello

5 Bass

Extra Part - P3035401

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PUBLICATIONS

3035402



8 22424 03342 2

Program Notes

The Pony Express is a work which paints the image of an adventure by a Pony Express rider. A galloping rhythm persists together with exciting harmonies to make this adventure come to life. String players will need to consistently use the lower half of the bow throughout this work. It is also important that this piece maintains a feel of moving forward to capture the full excitement. Enjoy this music and imagery with your ensemble!

About the Composer

Brian Holmes is both a violinist and a music educator. He has had many opportunities to perform as a violinist winning the 1999 Independence Symphony's Young Artist competition and soloing with the Independence Symphony. He served as concertmaster of the Kansas City Youth Symphony and later had the opportunity to perform in the National Festival Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. In 2001 and 2003 Brian won the Liberty Symphony's Young Artist competition and soloed with the symphony on both occasions. He also has soloed on different occasions with the William Jewell Chamber Orchestra. Brian graduated from William Jewell College in 2005 with degrees in Violin Performance and Music Education.

Brian spent three years as orchestra director at Truman High School and frequently directs the Restoration Strings. Through the years, Brian has taught private violin and viola lessons and has taught at home, Meyer Music, the Lydia Lovan School of Music, Northland Cathedral School of Music and the Music Arts Institute. He has been a member of the MAI String Quartet and plays in the Mt. Zion Chamber Ensemble. Brian enjoys writing music and specializes in writing for string ensembles.

Duration 3:20

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Galloping ♩ = 108

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

1 2 3 4 5

Detailed description: This block contains the first five measures of the musical score. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked 'Galloping' with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte) for Violin I, Violin II, and Viola. The Cello and Bass parts are marked with 'mf' and feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Violin I and II parts feature a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. The Viola part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Cello and Bass parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The measures are numbered 1 through 5 at the bottom.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

6 7 8 9 10

9

Detailed description: This block contains measures 6 through 10 of the musical score. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The dynamics are marked 'f' (forte) for Violin I, Violin II, and Viola, and 'ff' (fortissimo) for Cello and Bass. The Violin I and II parts feature a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. The Viola part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Cello and Bass parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The measures are numbered 6 through 10 at the bottom. A box with the number '9' is placed above measure 9.

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The Pony Express

15

Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

ff
mf
ff
mf
ff
mf

11 12 13 14 15

Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

mf

16 17 18 19 20

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21

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

21 22 23 24 25

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

26 27 28 29 30

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31

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

31 32 33 34 35

ff

This musical system covers measures 31 to 35. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measures 31-34 are marked with a forte (ff) dynamic. The instrumentation includes woodwinds (flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons) and strings. The score shows a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are also some dynamic markings like accents and hairpins.

39

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

36 37 38 39 40

This musical system covers measures 36 to 40. It features the same five staves as the previous system. The key signature remains one sharp (F#). The instrumentation includes woodwinds and strings. The score continues with various rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings, including accents and hairpins.

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41 42 43 44 45

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

47

46 47 *mf* 48 49 50

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

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55

51 52 53 54 55

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

f

f

f

f

f

56 57 58 59 60

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

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61

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

61 62 63 64 65

68

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

f

f

66 67 68 69 70

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71 72 73 74 75

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

This musical score block covers measures 71 through 75. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/8. In measure 71, Vln. I has a whole rest, while Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass all play half notes. In measure 72, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. In measure 73, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. In measure 74, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. In measure 75, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. The Cello and Bass parts feature long, sweeping slurs across measures 71-72 and 74-75.

77

76 77 78 79 80

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

This musical score block covers measures 76 through 80. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/8. In measure 76, Vln. I has a whole rest, while Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass all play half notes. In measure 77, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. In measure 78, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. In measure 79, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. In measure 80, Vln. I has a quarter rest, and the other instruments continue with half notes. The Cello and Bass parts feature long, sweeping slurs across measures 76-77 and 79-80.

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85

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

81 82 83 84 85

ff *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

86 87 88 89 90

mf *ff*

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93

Score for measures 91-95, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass.

Measures 91-95 show a progression of dynamics from *f* to *ff*. The Vln. I and Vln. II parts feature eighth-note patterns. The Vla. and Cello parts feature eighth-note patterns with accents. The Bass part is mostly silent, with a final measure (95) showing a pattern of eighth notes.

Measure numbers: 91, 92, 93, 94, 95.

Dynamics: *f*, *ff*.

99

Score for measures 96-100, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass.

Measures 96-100 show a progression of dynamics from *mf* to *mf*. The Vln. I and Vln. II parts feature eighth-note patterns. The Vla. and Cello parts feature eighth-note patterns with accents. The Bass part is mostly silent, with a final measure (100) showing a pattern of eighth notes.

Measure numbers: 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Dynamics: *mf*.

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105

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

101 102 103 104 105

mf

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

106 107 108 109 110

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115

Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

111
 112 *mf*
 113
 114
 115 *ff*

Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

116
 117
 118
 119
 120

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123

Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

121 122 123 124 125

Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

126 127 128 129 130

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131

131

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Bass *mf*

132 133 134 135

139

136 137 138 139 140

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f* *ff*

Cello *f* *ff*

Bass *f* *ff*

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145

Vln. I *ff*
 Vln. II *ff*
 Vla. *mf*
 Cello
 Bass *pizz.*

141 142 143 144 145

Vln. I *mf*
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello *mf*
 Bass

146 147 148 149 150

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152

151

f

152

153

154

155

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

f
arco

156

157

158

159

160

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

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161

Score for measures 161 to 165, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass.

Measures 161-165 show a continuous melodic line in Vln. I, a steady eighth-note accompaniment in Vln. II, and a rhythmic pattern in Vla. The Cello and Bass parts feature long, sustained notes with a slight upward curve, indicating a crescendo or a specific bowing technique.

169

Score for measures 166 to 171, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass.

Measures 166-171 show a more complex arrangement. Vln. I and Vln. II have more active melodic lines. Vla. continues with its rhythmic pattern. The Cello and Bass parts feature a series of eighth notes, with a crescendo leading into measure 169, marked *ff* (fortissimo), followed by a decrescendo marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measures 170 and 171.

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Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

172 173 174 175 176

177
 Vln. I
 Vln. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Bass

177 178 179 180 181 182