

# Ice Storm

Matthew Gelfer

1 Full Score

8 Violin 1

8 Violin 2

3 Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)

5 Viola

3 Viola (Violin A.C.)

5 Cello

5 Bass

Extra Part - P3036381

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## Program Notes

This original work for intermediate string orchestra depicts the driving winds and icy rain of a bitter winter storm. Set in the dark key of B minor, students will get to explore pizzicato and arco sections, a variety of bowing styles, and syncopated figures that build excitement. The opening should be played quietly, with anticipation. At measure 5, the intensity begins to grow both in volume and through the rising melodic phrases in violins and violas. The pizzicato section at measure at 16 depicts the first frozen droplets falling – unrushed, but with tense agitation at the growing storm. This leads to the “swirling of strong winds” beginning at measure 32, where contrary motion between upper and lower strings rises and falls in the snowy tempest. Violins and violas should utilize the whole bow, especially for slurred string crossings, to achieve a strong ringing tone. Likewise, at measure 40, cellos and basses should play out the melody while violins and violas maintain a crisp, precise staccato accompaniment. The momentum continues to build toward a fortissimo conclusion that suddenly – like so many unpredictable storms – drops out of sight, leave nothing but a frigid landscape frozen in cold silence.

## About the Composer

Matthew Gelfer is a multi-instrumentalist performer, educator, composer and arranger with one foot planted firmly in the classical tradition and the other in fiddling and alternative styles. He obtained a degree in film scoring from Berklee College of Music and continued his pedagogical study at CUNY Brooklyn College. He holds a master's degree from Stony Brook University, where his focus was improvisation in the instrumental music classroom. Mr. Gelfer has been a guest conductor, guest artist, and sought-after clinician teaching integration of folk fiddle styles and improvisation. Mr. Gelfer teaches junior high school orchestra in the Huntington School District on Long Island, New York. He can also be seen playing fiddle, guitar and mandolin with his Americana band, The New Students. They have released three albums of original music.

Duration 2:35

# Ice Storm

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**Tranquillo ♩ = 60**

Musical score for the first section of "Ice Storm". The score consists of five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is A major (three sharps). The tempo is Tranquillo (♩ = 60). The score is divided into measures 1, 2, 3, and 4 by vertical bar lines. Measure 1: Violin 1 plays eighth-note pairs, Violin 2 and Viola play eighth-note pairs, Cello and Bass play quarter notes. Measure 2: Violin 1 and Violin 2 play eighth-note pairs, Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs, Bass plays eighth notes. Measure 3: Violin 1 and Violin 2 play eighth-note pairs, Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs, Bass plays eighth notes. Measure 4: Violin 1 and Violin 2 play eighth-note pairs, Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs, Bass rests. Dynamics: measure 1 (mf), measure 2 (mf), measure 3 (mf), measure 4 (mf).

**5 With Intensity ♩ = 90**

Musical score for section 5 of "Ice Storm". The score consists of five staves: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is A major (three sharps). The tempo is With Intensity (♩ = 90). The score is divided into measures 5, 6, 7, and 8 by vertical bar lines. Measure 5: All instruments rest. Measure 6: All instruments rest. Measure 7: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth-note pairs (p dynamic), Vla., Cello, and Bass play eighth-note pairs (pp dynamic). Measure 8: All instruments play eighth-note pairs (f dynamic). Dynamics: measure 5 (pp), measure 6 (pp), measure 7 (p), measure 8 (f).

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Ice Storm - Score

**9**

Vln. 1      Vln. 2      Vla.      Cello      Bass

9      10      11      12

**16**

Vln. 1      Vln. 2      Vla.      Cello      Bass

13      14      15      16

Ice Storm - Score

Musical score for measures 17 to 20, featuring five staves: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is A major (two sharps). The music consists of eighth-note patterns. Measure 17: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs). Measure 18: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs). Measure 19: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs). Measure 20: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs).

24

Musical score for measures 21 to 24, starting at measure 24. The key signature is A major (two sharps). The music includes dynamic markings: arco (bowing) and forte (f). Measure 24: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs). Measure 25: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs). Measure 26: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs). Measure 27: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs). Measure 28: Vln. 1 (eighth-note pairs), Vln. 2 (eighth-note pairs), Vla. (eighth-note pairs), Cello (eighth-note pairs), Bass (eighth-note pairs).

Ice Storm - Score

Musical score for measures 25 to 28 of the "Ice Storm" score. The score consists of five staves: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is A major (two sharps). Measure 25: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth-note patterns. Vla., Cello, and Bass provide harmonic support. Measure 26: The pattern continues. Measure 27: The pattern continues. Measure 28: The pattern continues. Measure numbers 25, 26, 27, and 28 are indicated below the staves.

32

Musical score for measures 29 to 32 of the "Ice Storm" score. The score consists of five staves: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature changes to G major (one sharp). Measure 29: Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 play eighth-note patterns. Vla., Cello, and Bass provide harmonic support. Measure 30: The pattern continues. Measure 31: The pattern continues. Measure 32: The pattern continues. Measure numbers 29, 30, 31, and 32 are indicated below the staves. Dynamics include  $f$  (fortissimo) and  $v$  (pianissimo).

Ice Storm - Score

4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

33      34      35      36

**40**

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

37      38      39      40 *f*

Ice Storm - Score

Musical score for measures 41 to 44 of the "Ice Storm" score. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 41: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello play eighth-note patterns; Bass plays eighth-note pairs. Measure 42: Similar patterns continue. Measure 43: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello play eighth-note patterns; Bass plays eighth-note pairs. Measure 44: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello play eighth-note patterns; Bass plays eighth-note pairs. Dynamics: *mf* at the end of measure 41, *mf* at the end of measure 42, *mf* at the end of measure 43, and *mf* at the beginning of measure 44.

**47**

Musical score for measures 45 to 48 of the "Ice Storm" score. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 45: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello play eighth-note patterns; Bass plays eighth-note pairs. Measure 46: Similar patterns continue. Measure 47: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello play eighth-note patterns; Bass plays eighth-note pairs. Measure 48: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello play eighth-note patterns; Bass plays eighth-note pairs. Dynamics: *f* at the end of measure 45, *f* at the end of measure 46, *f* at the end of measure 47, and *f* at the beginning of measure 48.

Ice Storm - Score

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

49 50 51 52

**53**

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

53 54 55 56