

# Poeme Symphonique "Les Preludes"

Franz Liszt  
Arranged by Rick England

## INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score.....	1	Trombone I.....	1
Flute I.....	1	Trombone II.....	1
Flute II.....	1	Bass Trombone .....	1
Oboe .....	1	Tuba .....	1
B $\flat$ Clarinet I.....	1	Timpani (G-C-D).....	1
B $\flat$ Clarinet II.....	1	Percussion (Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Crash Cymbals).....	3
Bassoon .....	1	Violin I.....	8
B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet .....	1	Violin II .....	8
F Horn I.....	1	Viola .....	5
F Horn II.....	1	Cello .....	5
B $\flat$ Trumpet I.....	1	String Bass.....	5
B $\flat$ Trumpet II.....	1		

## PROGRAM NOTES

Many credit Franz Liszt with the invention of the symphonic poem. "Les Preludes," the third and by far the most popular of Liszt's 12 Symphonic Poems, was first envisioned as an overture to a grand cycle of choruses for men's choir. Eventually, he abandoned the other four movements and "Les Preludes" stood on its own.

Liszt derived the title from an ode by French poet Alphonse de Lamartine which began "*What else is life but a series of preludes to that unknown song whose first solemn note is intoned by death....*" Although "Les Preludes" is not a direct translation of the text, the shifting moods do refer back to the poem.

This version, for school orchestras, uses the most accessible of the themes in a setting that allows the themes to be played by many of the sections and provides a rousing concluding coda for all to enjoy.



**Please note:** Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.