Young String Ensemble Series

INSTRUMENTATION

1. Full Score
2. Violin 1
3. Violin 2
4. Violin 3
5. Viola
6. Cello
7. Double Bass

Sonatina

Ludwig van Beethoven

Arranged by Loreta Fin

Programme and Rehearsal Notes

Duration: 3 minutes
Level: 5–3

For my mother, Patricia Fin, who is a big fan of Beethoven’s music. This arrangement is designed for ensembles which are ready to address concepts of “steels in their performances. In the opening 4/4 section, students should be made aware of the subtleties in bowing, e.g., such as a slight separation of the quarter notes and 8th notes (crotchets and minim), and short “breaths” between the pairs of eighth note triplets. The various roles of melody, counter melody and accompaniment should also be discussed, especially where rests and string crossings are involved. In this Romance (6/8) students are encouraged to lighten the third while note pulse in order to understand the “lilt” part of the music.

Loreta Fin is Director of Strings and Instrumental music at Somerville House School for Girls in Brisbane, Australia. She conducted her String Orchestras at the school at both primary and secondary levels and all of these ensembles have been very successful in competitions over the years. The Senior String Orchestra received the 2004 “Best School Orchestra” award from the Orchestral Network of Australia Network. Loreta has presented workshops on string teaching and ensemble techniques and has tutored and conducted string orchestras for numerous youth music organizations. From 2001 to 2004, Loreta was Queensland State President of Questa (Australian Strings Association) and served as the National President from 2005 to 2007. She is also a String Examiner with the Australian Music Examinations Board.

Loreta studied at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and has performed regularly as a freelance musician in chamber music and orchestral concerts, as well as in musical theatre. She is Principal Violist with the Queensland Pops Orchestra. With over 50 years of experience as a teacher and adjudicator, Loreta has also written numerous publications for young string orchestras, which are frequently selected as set works for competitions and festivals.

Loreta Fin is to bring an appreciation and enjoyment of music to as many young string players as possible, while teaching valuable rhythmic and technical skills in a fun way.
Notice to Conductors and Performers
Please bear aware that photocopying is illegal.
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Published by Wilfin Music
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Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc.