

ELEGANT REFLECTIONS

by

M. L. Daniels

Concert String Orchestra Series

INSTRUMENTATION

2-Full Score

5-Viola

8-1st Violin

5-Cello

8-2nd Violin

5- Double bass

Duration: Approx. 3 min. 35 sec.

Grade: 3 (Medium)

Complete Printed Set (w/2 scores)\$65.00

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PROGRAM NOTES

Elegant Reflections provides a musical reflection of a very pleasant dream sequence that captures and paints a picture of a very good and positive day from your past. The lush harmonies and rich moving lines combine to create an almost cinematic retelling of the dream.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

To capture the proper feeling of the work, it should be played with a sense of care and a lot of emotion. Work on phrasing throughout. While it is certainly performable by younger players that have not yet mastered vibrato, use of vibrato and good tone quality throughout will greatly enhance the performance. Strive throughout for good balance throughout and be sure that those sections carrying the melody come out strongly. 1st violins open with the melody. Five measures past letter A (measure 13) should suddenly be played louder and become dramatically softer in the very next measure. The crescendos and decrescendos just ahead of letter B should be played with good balance. At letter B the cellos should be the loudest voice in the ensemble. All the other parts should provide balanced support. Contrast and dynamics become critically important in the fifth measure after letter D to achieve the most effective performance. Finally, work to achieve good tone quality and balance between cellos and basses in the pizzicato section that begins in the fifth bar after letter E. Enjoy!

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

M. L. Daniels was born in Cleburne, Texas. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Abilene Christian University after serving three years in a U.S. Air Force band, and completed his doctorate at the University of North Texas, where he studied composition with Samuel Adler. He served on the music faculty at Abilene Christian University for over 30 years, where he served as assistant band director and taught music theory, orchestration, counterpoint, analysis, and composition. There he also served as chairman of the music department for 15 years. Since he began his early retirement in, he has spent much of his time writing music and judging school bands and orchestras. He has won the National School Orchestra Association's composition contest five times, and has won the Texas Orchestra Directors Association contest one time, which is the maximum allowed. He has over 100 published compositions. In addition, he has works published for brass ensemble, solo wind instrument and piano, solo voice and piano, SATB, SSA, and TTB choir, full orchestra, string orchestra, band, hymns, and string quartet. Currently he has numerous compositions on the Texas UIL Prescribed Music List. He remains extremely active as a composer and as an adjudicator throughout the Southwest.



Elegant Reflections

M. L. Daniels

Slowly ♩ = 60

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

f

f

f

f

f

2 3 4 5

Detailed description: This block contains the first five measures of the score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Slowly' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The dynamic is marked 'f' (forte). The Violin I part begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The Violin II part begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The Viola part begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The Cello part begins with a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The Contrabass part begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note B2. The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and slurs.

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

A

6 7 8 9 10

Detailed description: This block contains measures 6 through 10 of the score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass. The music continues in the same 4/4 time and key signature. A section marker 'A' is placed above measure 8. The Violin I part has a quarter rest in measure 6, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The Violin II part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The Viola part has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The Cello part has a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The Contrabass part has a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note B2. The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and slurs.

Musical score for measures 11-14, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff* and *mp*, and performance instructions like *pizz.* and *ff*. Measure numbers 11, 12, 13, and 14 are indicated below the staves.

Musical score for measures 15-18, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* and *mf*, and performance instructions like *arco (bring out)*. A section marker **B** is present above measure 17. Measure numbers 15, 16, 17, and 18 are indicated below the staves.

Musical score for measures 19-23, featuring five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The music is in G major and 4/4 time. Measures 19-23 show a melodic development across the strings.

Musical score for measures 24-27, featuring five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. A section marked 'C' begins at measure 25. The music is in G major and 4/4 time. Measures 24-27 show a melodic development across the strings, with a forte (*f*) dynamic marking starting at measure 25. The Cb. part includes an *arco* marking and a *f* dynamic marking at measure 26.

Musical score for measures 28-32, featuring five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and articulation marks.

28 29 30 31 32

Musical score for measures 33-36, featuring five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. A dynamic marking 'D' is present above the first staff in measure 33. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and articulation marks.

33 34 35 36

Musical score for measures 37-40. The score is arranged in five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 37 starts with a dynamic of *ff*. Measure 38 has a dynamic of *mp*. Measure 39 has a dynamic of *f*. Measure 40 has a dynamic of *mf*. The Vc. and Cb. parts include *pizz.* markings. The Vln. I and Vln. II parts have a *mf* marking at the end of measure 40.

Musical score for measures 41-45. The score is arranged in five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. A box containing the letter 'E' is positioned above the first staff. Measure 41 has a dynamic of *f*. Measure 42 has a dynamic of *f*. Measure 43 has a dynamic of *mf*. Measure 44 has a dynamic of *ff*. Measure 45 has a dynamic of *ff*. The Vc. and Cb. parts include *pizz.* markings. The Vln. I and Vln. II parts have a *ff* marking at the end of measure 45.

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts are in treble clef. Viola (Vla.) is in alto clef. Violoncello (Vc.) and Contrabass (Cb.) are in bass clef. The score includes dynamic markings (*mp*, *f*, *ff*, *mf*) and a tempo change to *Slower* at the start of measure 48, with a metronome marking of ♩ = 42. The *arco* instruction is present for the Cello and Contrabass parts in measures 47 and 48. Measure numbers 46, 47, 48, 49, and 50 are indicated at the bottom of the page.