

CHANSON TRISTE

by

Max Mueller

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. 25
Grade: 3 ½ (Medium-Advanced)

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

Chanson triste is the perfect piece to explore phrasing as an ensemble. The melancholy sensibility allows students to really feel how the tempo and dynamics should be paced based on how they emotionally feel collectively. It is also a chance to deal with more complex harmonies than they might have encountered before. The harmonies, while still consonant, can get dense. It is an opportunity for the musicians to achieve sonic balance within a chord that might have as much as 5 or 6 notes sounding at the same time. This piece will aptly showcase your student's emotional sensitivity and musical maturity. It is a work well suited for use at contest or for festival use.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Max Mueller is a composer, cellist, and pianist originally from Cleveland, Ohio. Max moved to Los Angeles in 2007 where he completed his undergraduate studies at California State University, Northridge, focusing on film scoring. During his tenure in Los Angeles, Max has assisted Academy Award nominated composer David Newman since 2009, editing older movie scores for live performance purposes. Max has helped reconstruct scores for such films as *Out of Africa*, *How the West Was Won*, *Batman*, and *Edward Scissorhands*.

In 2011, Max designed a composition workshop for Los Angeles schools entitled *Books In Concert*, where high school students work with college composer mentors to compose short pieces based on excerpts from popular books for young adults. The culmination is a live performance of everyone's piece with a narrator reading the excerpts before the respective piece.

While pursuing a career as a film composer himself, Max utilizes existing film music in many of his music education projects. He believes the cultural ubiquity of film music is the perfect stepping stone for young people to appreciate stand alone Classical music and instrumental music in general.



CHANSON TRISTE

for string orchestra

Max Mueller

Slowly, ♩ = 52
div. (1/2 on E; 1/2 on G and D)

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass, measures 1-7. The score is in 3/4 time and features dynamic markings such as *p*, *ppp*, *pp*, *mp*, and *espress.*. The Viola part includes a *div.* marking. The Violoncello part includes a *V* marking and a triplet of eighth notes.

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass, measures 8-14. The score continues with dynamic markings such as *mf*, *f*, *molto espress.*, and *mp*. The Violin I part includes a *div.* marking and a triplet of eighth notes. The Viola part includes a *div.* marking and a triplet of eighth notes. The Violoncello part includes a triplet of eighth notes. The Double Bass part includes a triplet of eighth notes.

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Vln. I: *mf*, *p*, *mp espress.*, *mf*, *submf*
 Vln. II: *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *submf*
 Vla.: *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *submf*
 Vc.: *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f espress.*
 Db.: *mf*

Measures: 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

Vln. I: *mp*, *mp*, *mf espress.*
 Vln. II: *mp*, *mp*, *mf espress.*
 Vla.: *mp*, *mp*, *mp espress.*
 Vc.: *mp*, *mp*, *mp*, *div. unis.*
 Db.: *mp*, *mp*, *mp*

Measures: 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29

Musical score for measures 30-35. The score is for a string ensemble consisting of Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (Db.).

- Measures 30-31:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a melodic line starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Vc. and Db. play a rhythmic accompaniment with triplets, marked *mf sul tasto*. Vla. plays a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets, marked *mf sul tasto*.
- Measure 31:** Dynamics shift to fortissimo (*ff*) for Vln. I and Vln. II. Vc. and Db. remain at *mf sul tasto*. Vla. is marked *naturale* and *ff*.
- Measure 32:** Vln. I and Vln. II continue with *ff*. Vc. and Db. are marked *ff*. Vla. is marked *ff*.
- Measure 33:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a triplet, marked *mf*. Vc. and Db. are marked *mf*. Vla. is marked *mf*.
- Measure 34:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a triplet, marked *f*. Vc. and Db. are marked *mf*. Vla. is marked *f*.
- Measure 35:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a triplet, marked *mf*. Vc. and Db. are marked *mf*. Vla. is marked *mf*.

Musical score for measures 36-41. The score is for a string ensemble consisting of Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (Db.).

- Measure 36:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a melodic line starting with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Vc. and Db. play a rhythmic accompaniment with triplets, marked *mp*. Vla. plays a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets, marked *mp*.
- Measures 37-38:** Dynamics shift to *cresc.* for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vc., and Db. Vln. I and Vln. II are marked *mf*. Vla. is marked *cresc.*.
- Measure 39:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a triplet, marked *f*. Vc. and Db. are marked *f*. Vla. is marked *f*.
- Measure 40:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a triplet, marked *submf*. Vc. and Db. are marked *mf*. Vla. is marked *f*.
- Measure 41:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a triplet, marked *mf*. Vc. and Db. are marked *mf*. Vla. is marked *mf*.

Rubato, $\text{♩} = 42$

Musical score for measures 42-47. The score is for a string ensemble consisting of Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (Db.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Rubato' with a quarter note equal to 42 beats. The dynamics are marked as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* *espress.* (mezzo-forte, expressive). The score features triplet patterns in measures 42, 43, and 44, and a change in time signature to 2/4 in measure 45. Measure 47 includes a fermata over the final note.

Musical score for measures 48-52. The score is for a string ensemble consisting of Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (Db.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Rubato' with a quarter note equal to 42 beats. The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score features triplet patterns in measures 48, 49, and 50, and a change in time signature to 2/4 in measure 51. Measure 52 includes a fermata over the final note.

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