

Blue Mountain

for Strings

Roger Przytulski

Solo Violin I
Solo Violin II
Solo Viola
Solo Violoncello

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello
Contrabass

Duration: 12 Minutes

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Program Notes

The string instrument has deep roots in American folk heritage, especially the bass and fiddle. I have always been fascinated by the playing styles and communal activities that surround mountain music and blue grass bands. *Blue Mountain* explores the locale, energy, and improvisatory style of these genres of music.

Much of this music developed in and around the Blue Ridge Mountains of the Appalachian Range with beautiful, broad, and majestic landscapes that stretch on seemingly to eternity. The first movement, *Daybreak*, paints a picture of the sun coming up over the horizon, revealing all of the majesty of the geography, foliage, and fauna. Solo melodies give the impression of life waking up while the orchestra plays notes on open strings, tuning up their instruments for the new day. The piece then moves to a chorale like ostinato that flows in and out of the foreground while the morning melodies weave in and out of the texture with light, dancing lines bouncing about. The texture goes back and forth between the full orchestra and solo string quartet as the images change from close-up views to wide panoramas. This all steadily builds to a climax as the day settles in.

The second movement, *Sundown*, begins with the solo quartet tuning their instruments up again for the festival at night. The party is bustling with excitement around a bonfire as people dance, clap, and sing. The soloists take turns showing off as they toss the melody around from player to player and the orchestra retorts in a call and response style. The calamity builds to a loud shout chorus until the soloists take over again and the broad melodies of the first movement come back into the scene, reminding us of the grand surrounding. The bass players then kick in with a walking bass line for the ensemble to “improvise” around until it builds back up again to the shout chorus. *Sundown* races to the end with some last minute showing off before the final exclamation.

Commissioned by the Irvine High School Symphonic Orchestra
and Conductor Bob Avzaradel

Blue Mountain

for Strings

Roger Przytulski

1. Daybreak

Slowly ♩ = 48

Score for 1. Daybreak

Instrumentation: Solo Violin I, Solo Violin II, Solo Viola, Solo Violoncello, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Contrabass.

Key Signature: One sharp (F#).

Time Signature: 4/4.

Tempo: Slowly (♩ = 48).

Violin II Solo: *Solo Freely*, *mf* Slow gliss. (measures 3-4).

Violin I: *Muted* (measures 1-4).

Violin II: *pp* (measures 2-4).

Violoncello: *pp* (measures 2-4).

Contrabass: *pp* (measures 2-4).

Violoncello: *pp* (measures 2-4).

Violoncello: *pp* (measures 2-4).

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5

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf Slow gliss.

pp

Muted

Solo Freely

3

3

2/4

4/4

Pressing forward ♩ = 96
(Double time)

10

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf Solo

mf Solo

mf

10

mp

Stagger to remove mutes

mp

Stagger to remove mutes

mp

14

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

mf

ff

p cresc. poco a poco

Stagger to remove mutes

p

18

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

mp cresc. poco a poco

21

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

24

Tutti

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

ff

p

2
4

4
4

Musical score for measures 32-35. The score includes parts for S.Vln.I, S.Vln.II, S.Vla., S.Vc., Vln.I, Vln.II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. Measures 32-35 show a decrescendo in the string sections, followed by a solo section starting at measure 36.

37

37

45

45

[illegible]

[illegible]

83

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

86 More motion ♩ = 92

Solo

mp

Solo

mp

Solo

mp Pizz.

mf

86

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

94 **Tutti**

S.Vln.I **f**

S.Vln.II **f**

S.Vla. **f**

S.Vc. **f**

94 **f**

Vln.I **f**

Vln.II **f**

Vla. **f**

Vc. **f**

Cb. **f**

99

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

4/4

3/4

3

3

3

3

3

102 A little more motion ♩ = 96

Solo

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

3/4

4

mp

Solo

mp

102

102

3/4

4

fp

fp

f

112

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

119 Playful and lively ♩ = 100

[illegible]

121

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Detailed description: This musical score block contains measures 121 through 125. The instruments are arranged in two systems. The first system includes S.Vln.I, S.Vln.II, S.Vla., and S.Vc. The second system includes Vln.I, Vln.II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 121-125 show a variety of musical textures, including triplets in the violins, sixteenth-note patterns in the viola, and sustained notes in the violas and cellos. A large, faint watermark 'Sam' is visible across the center of the page.

[illegible]

[illegible][illegible]

148 Broadly with majesty ♩ = 48

147

Tutti

S.Vln.I

mf 3 3

Tutti

S.Vln.II

mf 3 3

S.Vla.

molto rit.

S.Vc.

molto rit.

148

f

Vln.I

3 3

molto rit.

Vln.II

3 3

molto rit.

Vla.

molto rit.

Vc.

Tutti

fff

3 3 3 3 3 3

Cb.

molto rit.

f

150

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

3

fff

S.Vla.

3

S.Vc.

3 3 3 3 3 3

Vln.I

Div.

Vln.II

3

fff

Vla.

3

Vc.

3 3 3 3 3 3

Cb.

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17

152

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

154

S.Vln.I

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

S.Vln.II

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

S.Vla.

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

S.Vc.

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

3/4

Vln.I

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

Vln.II

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

Vla.

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

Vc.

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

Cb.

mf *decresc. poco a poco*

3/4

[illegible]

2. Sundown

Fast and rhythmic ♩ = 120

First and Second Violins 120

Solo Violin I

Solo Violin II

Solo Viola

Solo Violoncello

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

7

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

This image shows a musical score for a string ensemble, measures 7 through 10. The score is written for seven parts: S.Vln.I, S.Vln.II, S.Vla., S.Vc., Vln.I, Vln.II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The first four parts (S.Vln.I, S.Vln.II, S.Vla., S.Vc.) are active in measures 7-10, while the remaining parts (Vln.I, Vln.II, Vla., Vc., Cb.) are silent. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

13

13

16 **Tutti Pizz.**

S.Vln.I *p*

S.Vln.II **Tutti Pizz.** *p*

S.Vla. **Tutti Pizz.** *p*

S.Vc. *mf* **Arco Soli w/basses**

Vln.I **Pizz.** *p*

Vln.II **Pizz.** *p*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Cb. **Arco Soli** *mf*

21 **Pizz.**

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II **Pizz.**

S.Vla. **Pizz.**

S.Vc.

Vln.I **Pizz.**

Vln.II **Pizz.**

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

[illegible]

28

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

2/4

3/4

f

f

f

f

f

31

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

4/4

4/4

Div.

34

36

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Tutti

ff

mf

36

3/4

4/4

4/4

mf

mf

Div.

ff

37

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Tutti

ff

Solo

ff

40

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Solo

ff

Solo

ff

Tutti

f

43

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Solo

ff

Tutti

mf

ff

Tutti

Solo

ff

Pizz.

mf

ff

Pizz.

46

Tutti

f

Tutti

f

Tutti

f

ff

Arco

Arco

Tutti

ff

49 Solo

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

51 Tutti

4/4

4/4

fff

fff

fff

fff

51 Div. a 3

4/4

4/4

fff

fff

fff

fff

51 Div. a 3

4/4

4/4

fff

fff

fff

fff

52

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

54

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

56

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

58

60

Solo

mf

fff

mp

mp

fff

mp

2/4

4/4

60

4/4

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

61

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

64

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

70

67

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Tutti

f

70

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

f Div.

mf

mf

70

71

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

Tutti

mf

Div.

75

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

f

mf

Tutti

Div.

f

mf

79

79

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

mf

ff

f

mf

mf

ff

Tutti

Div.

Tutti

82

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Div.

85

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

91

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

94

93

Tutti

f

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Tutti Pizz.

p

94

Tutti

f

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Tutti

f

Pizz.

p

Cb.

==

97

Solo

p

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Solo

p

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Div.

p

Vc.

Cb.

100

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp

mp

mp

Arco Solo

Div.

Div.

mp

mp

mp

mp

103

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

[illegible]

109

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Arco Div.

Arco

This musical score page contains measures 109, 110, and 111. The instrumentation includes strings (S.Vln.I, S.Vln.II, S.Vla., S.Vc., Vln.I, Vln.II, Vla., Vc., Cb.) and woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone). The score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 109 and 110 show the strings playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, while the woodwinds play a melodic line. Measure 111 features a change in the string texture, with the first violin and second violin playing a new melodic line, and the other instruments continuing their respective parts. The score is marked with 'Arco Div.' and 'Arco' in measure 111.

112

112

Tutti

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

112

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

115

Tutti

Tutti

Tutti

Tutti

Div.

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

118

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Solo

f

f

120

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

Solo

f

Solo

f

125

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

125

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Div. a 3

Div. a 3

fff

fff

fff

127

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

129

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Solo

Solo

132

134

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

135

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

138

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

141

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

145

143

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

3/4

4/4

fff

145

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Tutti

3/4

4/4

fff

==

146

S.Vln.I

S.Vln.II

S.Vla.

S.Vc.

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Div.