First Plus String Orchestra

Grade 1.5



A Country Memory

Alan Lee Silva

FAS54 INSTRUMENTATION

Full Sco	ore					 			1
Violin I									
Violin II									
Violin II	II (Vi	olo	T c	C	:.)				2
Viola									
Cello						 			5
Bass						 			5
Piano									1

Program Notes

Written in a modern Americana style, A Country Memory begins subtly with a lyrical violin melody over triads and open-string fifths in the other sections of the string orchestra. A pastoral country-feel is established in the introduction and continues throughout the piece. The eight-measure folk tune at m. 5 in violin I, played legato, is featured in each section of the ensemble. The cello plays the melody in m. 25 and then hands off to the high strings in m. 29.

In the interlude at m. 35, violin I states a two-measure melody. The rest of the ensemble joins in harmony two measures later, and the full group builds to the ritard. in m. 42. Low strings carry the melody in m. 43, as violin I plays an ostinato above them. The ensemble builds, playing ascending, scalar melodies and moves to the *Maestoso* section at m. 53. This is the final grand statement of the main theme before the ending begins at m. 61. From there to the end, the group plays vigorously with a full sound, highlighted by repeated sixteenth-note figures in violin I as the piece soars to the final chord.

About the Composer

Alan Lee Silva is a composer, arranger, and orchestrator whose credits include the feature films *Cinderella* 3 and *Enough*, and television's *7th Heaven*, *Brothers and Sisters*, and *Soul Collector*. He scored the independent films *Animated American*, *Full Moon Fables* and *Eli's Coming* and has written songs, arrangements, and background music for theme parks all over the world, including Tokyo Disney Sea, Universal Studios Japan, and Sea World's Aquatica.

Alan has enjoyed working with an eclectic mix of clients, including Disney Cruise Lines, Disney Latin America, Sesame Street, Susan Egan, The Nuclear Whales Saxophone Orchestra, and KISS. His catalogue for Concert Band and String Orchestra is published by Carl Fischer, and his contemporary jazz piece *The Flight* was a favorite on San Francisco radio stations.

Alan lives in Culver City, California with his wife and two daughters.



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FAS54F



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