

Grade

2½

Music for String Orchestra

Russian Easter Overture

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Arranged by
Austin Isaac

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INSTRUMENTATION

Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Violin III (Viola T.C.)	2
Viola	5
Cello	5
Bass	5

Arranger's Notes

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov completed this programmatic overture in the spring of 1888 and dedicated it to the memory of two of his friends who were also prolific Russian composers: Modest Mussorgsky and Alexander Borodin. He utilized original melodies and traditional melodies from liturgical chants of the Russian Orthodox Church. His brilliance as an orchestrator was showcased in this large work for full orchestra and included multiple time and key signatures in addition to various solos and cadenzas.

This arrangement stays true to the original key signatures and includes all main melodic and harmonic voices and structure in a continuous performance that is accessible and challenging. Care should be shown to the changes in meter, tempo and key signatures along with techniques such as divisi and tremolo. Subdivision and counting can be reinforced throughout this piece. In addition, suggested fingerings have been given to help navigate chromatic and shifting portions of this arrangement. Enjoy performing this arrangement of Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's masterpiece.

About the Arranger

Austin Isaac is the high school orchestra director at Lake Braddock Secondary School in Burke, Virginia. He has taught orchestra at the elementary and secondary levels in both public and private schools in Virginia. He received his B.M. from James Madison University with a concentration in instrumental education and his Master's Degree in Education from George Mason University. He has been commissioned and has written works for string orchestra, full orchestra, and choir. In addition to being a published composer, Austin has served as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator for honor orchestras and state assessment performances in various regions of Virginia.

Russian Easter Overture

NIKOLAI RIMSKY-KORSAKOV

Arranged by Austin Isaac

Mistico ♩ = 84

Violin I *p*

Violin II *p*

Viola *p*

Cello

Bass

1 2 3 4 5

Vln. I (V) *mf*

Vln. II (V) *mf*

Vla. (V) *mf*

Cello *f* pizz. 1 *mf*

Bass *f* *mf* 2

6 7 8 9

Vln. I *div.*

Vln. II *pizz.*

Vla. *pizz.*

Cello

Bass

10 11 12 13 14

half pos.

0 4 4 2 3 1

2 -4 1 4 0 -2

15 **Moderato** ♩ = 74

div. (tremolo)

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *arco (tremolo)* *p*

Vla. *arco (tremolo)* *mf*

Cello *f*

Bass *f*

H2 L2 H2

L1

H2 L2 L4 L4

arco

sim.

-1 3 4 -4

15 16 17 18

37 Allegro ♩ = 124

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

f

f

f

f

f

pizz. x1

pizz.

4

H3

L2

H3

L2

x4

2

1

2

1

-1

4

37

38

39

40

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

H3

p

p

H2

mf

arco

arco

4

3

p

p

1

4

4

4

41

42

43

44

45

div.

mf

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

45 46 47 48

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

49 50 51 52

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

53 54 55 56

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

57 58 59 60

pizz.

arco

div.

L1

arco

pizz.

arco

64

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

pizz.

H3

4

L2

arco

H3

ff

arco

ff

arco

ff

1

pizz.

61

62

63

64

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

65

66

67

68

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

69 70 71 72

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

H2 L2 L4 L1

ff

ff

0 -2 4 1 0 2 0 4

half pos.

73 74 75 76

78

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

77 78 79

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

80 81 82 83

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