Grade 2

Music for String Orchestra

Endless Engines

Dión Morales

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INSTRUMENTATION

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

YAS249F

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Performance Notes

Our world is driven forward by the roar and strength of engines! The driving eighth notes throughout this piece represent the power and intricate workings of these machines. Does this engine belong to a train being pursued by bandits? Is it the heart of a car racing towards a checkered flag? Or a jet engine tearing across the sky? This is the soundtrack to your Endless Engine! This piece was part of Dión's 2023 Free Commission Project. The goal of this project was to provide school orchestra programs with a composition that met the needs of each program as well as to create the opportunity to work with a professional composer. With input from each program's director, Dión created these custom pieces to fit into each orchestra's curriculum. Endless Engines was written for the Perry Meridian Middle School Orchestra program from Indianapolis, IN under the direction of Alexander Buff and Ariya Marr. The directors wanted an exciting piece to give to their developing orchestras an opportunity to reinforce note reading first position while including some modern techniques and effects.

Col legno battuto is the act of striking the stick of the bow on the string to create a pitched click or clanking sound. When performing this technique I recommend flipping the bow completely over and using the upper-middle portion of the stick to strike the string. Practice this technique using open strings first to learn how the bow bounces. Additionally, the ability to establish a proper bow hold quickly will be needed to switch back and forth between *arco* and *col legno* throughout the piece. Snap pizzicato is also known as Bartok pizz. Notes with this symbol above them should be played by lifting the string vertically when plucked, causing the string to hit the fingerboard thus creating a percussive effect in addition to the pitch. Some players prefer to perform this technique by grabbing the string between the thumb and index finger and pulling up.

About the Composer

Dión Morales (pronounced: dee-oan) was born, raised, and lives in Chicago, Illinois, with his wife and two daughters. He began his orchestral studies as a high school student at Lane Tech College Prep High School in the Chicago Public School system. Dión received his undergraduate degree in music education from VanderCook College of Music in 2010 and returned to VanderCook for his Master's degree, which he completed in 2021. He has taught elementary and middle school orchestra in Des Plaines District 62 since 2010. Additionally, as of 2024 he is an adjunct professor of String Arranging and String Music Education at VanderCook College of Music. His journey as a composer and arranger started with the development of the "Composers of Color Project," through which he arranged for school orchestra programs, music written by minority composers. The publication of the works from this project led to opportunities to add his own musical ideas to the orchestral repertoire, including original educational compositions and music for various media projects. In addition to writing for his own students, Dión has also been commissioned by multiple schools and districts to compose pieces for special events and performances. Dión has had the honor of being a judge, guest conductor, and clinician across the United States, where he uses his experience as an educator to give students a positive and memorable experience. His full catalog, resume, and contact information can be found on his website, dionmorales.com.

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Endless Engines

DIÓN MORALES



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Full Score

Synthesis

3

ISAIAH C. MASON

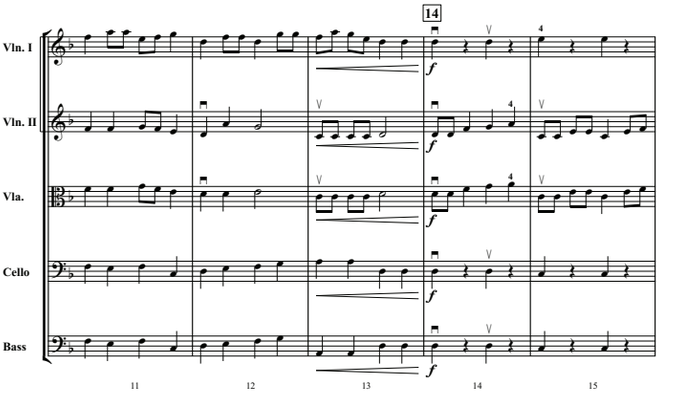
Moderato ♩ = 132





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6





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Full Score

Allemande
from Suite No. 2

3

ÉLISABETH JACQUET de La GUERRE
Arranged by Deborah Baker Monday

Allegretto ♩. = 128

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass

mf
p 2nd time
mf - p

5

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Cello
Bass

cresc.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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4

9 13

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Cello
Bass

f
dim.

* Grace notes are optional.

9 10 11 12 13

1. 2.

mp
p
mf

14 15 16 17 18

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