Grade 3½

Music for String Orchestra

Isacco Overture

Marianna von Martines

Arranged by

Zachary May

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INSTRUMENTATION

Violin I 8
Violin II 8
Viola 5
Cello 5
Bass 5
Timpani (Opt.) 1

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Notes

Marianna von Martines (1744–1812) was an accomplished Viennese composer, harpsichordist, and vocalist. She received early training from her neighbor Pietro Metastasio, as well as a young Franz Joseph Haydn, who was an unknown composer renting a room from her family at the time. Her output included keyboard sonatas and concertos, motets, masses, cantatas, and oratorios. The oratorio *Isacco Figura del Reddentore* was premiered in 1782 by the *Tonkünstler-Societät* (Society of Musicians) in Vienna and was one of Martines's largest-scale works. This *allegro* is the first of three sections of the oratorio's overture. It features buoyant interplay of the violin sections, compelling harmonic development in the low strings, and hooked and spiccato bowings characteristic of the classical era. The optional timpani part adds brilliance, power, and authenticity to the arrangement, making this an excellent program opener or closer.

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About the Arranger

Zachary May is the orchestra director for grades 10–12 at White Plains High School in White Plains, NY. He also founded and directs New York State's first public high school mariachi band, Mariachi Juvenil Los Tigres de WPHS. He has served as president of New York ASTA and taught low string methods at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College. Zachary earned a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he studied music education with Louis Bergonzi, cello with Dmitry Kouzov, chamber music with the Pacifica Quartet, and jazz bass with Larry Gray. He earned a Master of Music Education from Central Washington University focused on conducting studies with Nikolas Caoile. He has received the Give a Note Foundation Innovator Award, an Urbana Arts Grant, and the Illinois School of Music's Daniel J. Perrino award for excellence in music education. Zachary is a regular presenter at music education conferences on topics including cello technique, string methods, mariachi instruction, and Scandinavian fiddle styles. Zachary is principal cellist of the Taconic Opera orchestra and a former cellist in Orchestra 914 in Westchester County, NY.

Isacco Overture

MARIANNA MARTINES
Arranged by Zachary May



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Full Score

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

from *Solomon*

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

Arranged by Ken Selden

Allegro ♩ = 96





* Viola and cello may play solos in place of the violins at the discretion of the director.

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Music for String Orchestra

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