



Prelude II

GEORGE GERSHWIN

Arranged by TIM McCARRICK

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor
- 8 1st Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass

PROGRAM NOTES

George Gershwin (1898–1937) is considered one of America's finest composers, and the first to cross-over and combine classical music with jazz and popular songs.

He is known for his legacy of hit songs co-written, usually for Broadway, with his brother, lyricist Ira Gershwin. He is equally well-known as someone to bring jazz to the classical stage with works like *Rhapsody in Blue* or his *Piano Concerto*. His *Three Piano Preludes*, of which this is the second, written in the late 1920s, mix jazz and blues riffs with classical and are treasured by pianists to this day.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Never before available for string orchestra, this unique piece will broaden your players' skills with a variety of string effects, including tremolo, pizzicato, mutes, divisi playing and solos. This is a work in contrasts, sometimes even clashes. The major third/minor third distinction runs throughout the piece. But there are more contrasts to exploit: full orchestra vs. quintet; smooth legato bows over punctuated pizzicato; major vs. minor; muted sound vs. open; an E natural played against F#, then F natural (first seen in bar 19). Clashing and contrasts are everywhere! Help your students make the most of this by knowing when and where the contrasts occur. And make them play bravely. When the cellos move from the tonic note D to minor 7th C natural, it seems they have the last word, but it's really the basses in the final measure. The last chord divides the first violins by having half of them play open A and E strings, the other half playing either A harmonic or E harmonic.

Finally, even as slow as the piece is, there still must be some swing to the eighth notes. Have fun!

Tim McCarrick

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob Phillips
Belwin/Pop String Editor

Prelude II

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 4:50

By George Gershwin
Arranged by Tim McCarrickSlow Swing (♩ = $\overset{\frown}{\text{♩}} \text{ } \text{♩}$)

Andante con moto e poco rubato (♩ = 80)

con sord. $\overset{\frown}{\text{V}}$

Violins

Violins I and II: *mf* *mysterioso* at tip 2 2

Viola: *mf* *mysterioso* at tip 3 4 o 4

Cello: *mp* *mysterioso*

String Bass: *mf* *mysterioso* pizz.

Vlins.

Vlins. I and II: *mf* *mysterioso* at tip 2 2

Vla.: *mf* *mysterioso* at tip 3 4 o 4

Cello: *mp* *mysterioso*

Str. Bass: *mf* *mysterioso* pizz.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

arco

9 10 11 12

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

13 14 15 16

17

Vlns. I senza sord. *f* *div.*

Vlns. II *mf*

Vla. *f*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass

17 18 19 20

Vlns. I (V) *f*

Vlns. II

Vla. 4

Cello

Str. Bass

21 22 23 24

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

25 26 27 28

Blues March (♩ = 90)

SOLO STRING QUINTET -

The rest of the orchestra should tap foot on beats 1 and 3 and snap fingers on 2 and 4..

pizz.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

29 30 31 32

mf

pizz.

mf

pizz.

mf

Solo

ff

pizz.

mf

Score for measures 33-36, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Vlns. I & II: Treble clef, key of D major. Vln. I plays a melodic line with some chromaticism. Vln. II plays a similar line, often in parallel motion with Vln. I.

Vla.: Alto clef, key of D major. Plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

Cello: Bass clef, key of D major. Features a melodic line with many slurs and accents, including a triplet in measure 36.

Str. Bass: Bass clef, key of D major. Provides a harmonic foundation with a mix of eighth and quarter notes.

Measures 33, 34, 35, and 36 are indicated at the bottom of the system.

Score for measures 37-40, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Vlns. I & II: Treble clef, key of D major. Vln. I continues the melodic line. Vln. II has a measure rest in measure 39.

Vla.: Alto clef, key of D major. Includes an *arco* marking in measure 37 and features a series of accents in measures 37 and 38.

Cello: Bass clef, key of D major. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents, including a *x4* marking in measure 40.

Str. Bass: Bass clef, key of D major. Continues the harmonic support.

Measures 37, 38, 39, and 40 are indicated at the bottom of the system.

43

Theme

arco

1

1

Vlns.

I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff
arco*p*

pizz.

mp

pizz.

mp

41

42

43

44

45

Vlns.

I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

46

47

48

49

Score for measures 50-52, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Vlns. I & II: Treble clef, key of D major. Measure 50: Vln I plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4), Vln II plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measure 51: Vln I plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4), Vln II plays half notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4). Measure 52: Vln I plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4), Vln II plays half notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4).

Vla. & Cello: Bass clef, key of D major. Measure 50: Vla. plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3), Cello plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measure 51: Vla. plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3), Cello plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measure 52: Vla. plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3), Cello plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3). Both parts are marked *arco* in measures 51 and 52.

Str. Bass: Bass clef, key of D major. Measure 50: Str. Bass plays eighth notes (D2, E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2). Measure 51: Str. Bass plays eighth notes (D2, E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2). Measure 52: Str. Bass plays eighth notes (D2, E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2).

Score for measures 53-56, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass.

Vlns. I & II: Treble clef, key of D major. Measure 53: Vln I plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4), Vln II plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measure 54: Vln I plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4), Vln II plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measure 55: Vln I plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4), Vln II plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measure 56: Vln I plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4), Vln II plays eighth notes (D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 55 and 56 are marked *rit.*

Vla. & Cello: Bass clef, key of D major. Measure 53: Vla. plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3), Cello plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measure 54: Vla. plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3), Cello plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measure 55: Vla. plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3), Cello plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measure 56: Vla. plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3), Cello plays half notes (D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measures 55 and 56 are marked *pp*.

Str. Bass: Bass clef, key of D major. Measure 53: Str. Bass plays eighth notes (D2, E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2). Measure 54: Str. Bass plays eighth notes (D2, E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2). Measure 55: Str. Bass plays eighth notes (D2, E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2). Measure 56: Str. Bass plays eighth notes (D2, E2, F#2, G2, A2, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2). Measures 55 and 56 are marked *pp*.

57 A tempo

Vlns. I *Tutti* *f*

Vlns. II *Tutti* *mf*

Vla. *Tutti* *f*

Cello *Tutti* *div.* *f*

Str. Bass *Tutti* *f*

57 58 59 60

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. *Tutti* *f*

Cello *Tutti* *f*

Str. Bass *Tutti* *f*

61 62 63 64

First stand *div.*

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

65 66 67 68

First Stand-Harmonics on A and E
Section-open A and E

rit.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

69 70 71 72 73

pp

pp

pp

pp

mf >

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