

# GYMNOPÉDIE NO. 1

**ERIK SATIE** 

Arranged by

Robert D. McCashin

#### Instrumentation

- 1 Conductor's Full Score
- 8 Violin 1
- 8 Violin 2
- 5 Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Violoncello
- 5 Double Bass
- 1 Piano



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### The Arranger

Dr. Robert McCashin is the director of orchestras at James Madison University. He serves as Music Director/Conductor for the orchestras and teaches graduate orchestral conducting. Dr. McCashin earned B.M. and M.M. degrees in violin performance from LSU, and a D.M.A. in conducting from the University of Arizona.

Dr. McCashin was previously on the faculties of UT Arlington and Texas Wesleyan University. He was a member of the Fort Worth Symphony and Opera orchestras, and performed extensively as an orchestral and chamber musician throughout the north Texas region. He was founding conductor of the Arlington Youth Symphony, and also served as associate conductor of the Youth Orchestras of Greater Fort Worth.

As a guest conductor and active clinician, Dr. McCashin has spent nearly 35 years working with young string players, elementary through high school. He maintains a busy schedule of conducting at the regional, state, and national levels. His conducting appearances include professional regional orchestras as well as regional and all-state honor orchestras. Dr. McCashin served two terms as founding president of the College Orchestra Directors Association and has been a board member for the Virginia ASTA organization.

#### **About the Music**

Gymnopédie No. I was written by French composer and pianist Erik Satie. It is the first of a set of three piano pieces that Satie himself sometimes referred to as furniture music, meaning that it is music that could create a mood in a room—quiet, calming, or otherwise atmospheric in nature. When these pieces were composed in the late 1880s, underlying or supportive harmonies of this type were completely new.

In performing Gymnopédie No. 1, students should be encouraged to explore tonal painting, or to create that "other worldly" quality of sound, through the contact location of the bow and a faster bow speed. When played correctly, it will indeed create a very calm and surreal mood for the audience, as well as provide musicians an excellent introduction into the realm of sound imagination. It will also open the doorway to a discussion of the broad palate of tonal colors available from stringed instruments.

String Editing: Dr. Robert D. McCashin

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