



Raise the Curtain

STEVE PARSONS

Instrumentation

Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
Bass	5
Optional Piano	1

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About the Arranger



Steve is an award-winning composer, orchestrator, and music director. His composing credits include: Evensong (for Choir and Orchestra,) Seascapes (RBC Publications,) Frankenstein: The Puppet Opera (Translations Art Gallery,) Visions (an oratorio based on the book of Revelation,) Rise City Silent, Sing!, College Slam (video game, Akklaim,) and numerous commissions for symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, and choral ensembles. An experienced arranger for marching bands and show choirs throughout the United States and Canada, many of his original works and arrangements have been featured in national championships, including several Outstanding Music awards at Bands of America finals.

Steve's musical adaptation of A Christmas Carol is published by Steele Spring Stage Rights in Los Angeles and has enjoyed performances at The Players Guild Theatre (14 seasons,) New York (Off-Off Broadway,) Los Angeles, and Vietnam (The International Choir and Orchestra of Ho Chi Minh City.) As an orchestrator, he has arranged the Grateful Dead musical Cumberland Blues (NYMF, NY,) Life Could Be A Dream (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, LA,) It's A Wonderful Life (Regional,) and Footloose (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, Rodgers & Hammerstein Library.) His other credits include: Nunsense and Nunsense A-Men! (music preparation, NY,) The Tick (member of the "Tickestra," FOX,) and Defying Gravity: The Creative Career of Stephen Schwartz (consultant and contributor, Applause Books.)

Steve has both Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts degrees in composition from Kent State University.

Raise the Curtain

"Places, please."

I've spent the majority of my professional adult life in the Orchestra pit, baton in hand (or hands on Keys), waiting for the curtain to lift and begin a new production. No matter the number of times you experience it, there's always a palpable sense of excitement and energy in the air from both the audience and performers that makes the hard work worthwhile and creatively satisfying. "Raise the Curtain" is my musical tribute to those thrilling moments when everyone is anticipating the downbeat and getting ready to take a new theatrical rollercoaster ride!

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Like many musical overtures of the past, this piece should be played with a huge amount of drive, so don't be afraid to "dig in" to the phrases with a good deal of attack. Even the long, soaring lines of the main theme should feel energized and full of motion. Similarly, the low Strings provide a lot of the pseudo-rhythm section engine, so make sure they lock in with each other using the eighth-note syncopated pulse.

Most all...have a great time!



steveparsonsccomposer



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Recordings are available on all major streaming services.

STEVE PARSONS
(ASCAP)

4 5 6 7

9

Unis.

sfz f
Div.
Arco

sfz f
Arco

sfz f
Arco

sfz f
Arco

Pizz.

8 9 10

13

mf *f*

mf *ff* *f*

mf Div. *ff* *f*

mf Arco *ff* *f*

mf *ff* *f*

mf *ff* *f*

11 12 13

Score for measures 14, 16, and 17. The score includes parts for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, Bass, and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score is marked with a large diagonal watermark: "For Preview Only Wingert-Jones Publications".

Measure 14: Vln. I and Vla. play a melodic line with accents. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Div.". Cello and Bass play a steady eighth-note pattern. Pno. plays a rhythmic pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

Measure 16: Vln. I and Vla. continue the melodic line. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Pizz.". Cello and Bass continue the eighth-note pattern. Pno. continues the rhythmic pattern.

Measure 17: Vln. I and Vla. continue the melodic line. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Arco". Cello and Bass continue the eighth-note pattern. Pno. continues the rhythmic pattern.

Score for measures 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22. The score includes parts for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, Bass, and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score is marked with a large diagonal watermark: "For Preview Only Wingert-Jones Publications".

Measure 18: Vln. I and Vla. play a melodic line with accents. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Pizz.". Cello and Bass play a steady eighth-note pattern. Pno. plays a rhythmic pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

Measure 19: Vln. I and Vla. continue the melodic line. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Arco". Cello and Bass continue the eighth-note pattern. Pno. continues the rhythmic pattern.

Measure 20: Vln. I and Vla. continue the melodic line. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Pizz.". Cello and Bass continue the eighth-note pattern. Pno. continues the rhythmic pattern.

Measure 21: Vln. I and Vla. continue the melodic line. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Arco". Cello and Bass continue the eighth-note pattern. Pno. continues the rhythmic pattern.

Measure 22: Vln. I and Vla. continue the melodic line. Vln. II plays a rhythmic pattern marked "Pizz.". Cello and Bass continue the eighth-note pattern. Pno. continues the rhythmic pattern.



Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

32 33 34 35

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

36 37 38 39

Score for measures 40-43, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, Bass, and Pno. The score includes dynamic markings such as *Pizz.*, *Arco*, and *mp*.

Score for measures 44-47, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, Bass, and Pno. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *f*, *fp*, and *mp*. Measure 45 is marked with a box containing the number 45.

Vln. I *mf* *fp* *rit.*
 Vln. II *mf* *mp* Pizz.
 Vla. *mf* *mp* Pizz.
 Cello *mf* *fp* Arco
 Bass *mf* *mp*
 Pno. *mf* *mp*

Vln. I *mf* *f* *ritempo*
 Vln. II *mf* *f* *Div.* Pizz.
 Vla. *mf* *f* Pizz.
 Cello *mf* *f* Pizz.
 Bass *mf* *f*
 Pno. *mf* *f*

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Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

Arco

Div.

Pizz.

56 57 58 59

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

60 61 62 63

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Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

68 69 70 71

