

FULL SCORE

Ensembles FOR Strings

AN INDISPENSABLE ENSEMBLE COLLECTION
FOR STRINGED INSTRUMENT GROUPS
SUITABLE FOR DUET, TRIO AND QUARTET
PLAYING, AS WELL AS STRING
ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

by Harvey S. Whistler and Herman A. Hummel

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 HAL•LEONARD[®]

BOOKS AVAILABLE:

String Parts (First Position)

Piano Accompaniment

Full Score

Preface

ENSEMBLES FOR STRINGS represents an indispensable collection of worth-while compositions, styled in easy arrangements for duet, trio, quartet and string orchestra performance, with or without piano accompaniment. The material presented is admirably suited for players with only a limited technic and experience, while the programmatic nature of the contents makes it highly desirable for use in almost any type of public performance.

Heretofore, the lack of easy music for string ensemble performance has been a factor in limiting the possibilities of chamber music experience by students who have studied only a short length of time. With the advent of "Ensembles for Strings," however, a definite step forward has been taken, as materials are now provided that will fill a long felt need, and which will not only enhance the value of the elementary stages of stringed instrument study, but also will increase its scope and vitalize its possibilities. Duets, trios, and quartets, are especially valuable as a means of developing players' ability to follow polyphonic dialogue of two or more instruments; likewise, such performance develops a keenness for accurate intonation, and an appreciation for the most subtle shades of tone color, neither of which results entirely from solo playing.

Whether used in the traditional string quartet arrangement (two violins, viola, and cello), or in combination of two, three, or four violins, with or without accompaniment, "Ensembles for Strings" is scored in such a manner that it will achieve maximum results regardless of the instrumentation employed. When the viola is lacking for string quartet performance, a violin playing the third part may be substituted for the tenor instrument with no loss whatsoever in harmonic balance. If a full string ensemble (orchestra) is desired, parts for two or more violins, viola, cello, and string bass, with or without piano accompaniment, may be utilized. When a trio of violin, cello, and piano is to perform, parts for these instruments are so written that they serve this ensemble combination in a highly satisfactory manner.

All of the material in "Ensembles for Strings" has been carefully edited and bowed. The range of each string part is such that all instruments, including string bass, may remain in the first position throughout the entire work; in fact, fourth finger and open string connotations indicated in the violin and viola parts suggest this very procedure. Players desiring to make use of higher positions, however, may do so at their own discretion, enhancing to a still greater degree the overall musical effect.

The writers wish to express their gratitude to the faculty string quartet of the state teachers' college at San Jose, California, for having been kind enough to test through actual performance the entire work while in manuscript form, and for having made timely suggestions for its improvement.

ENSEMBLES FOR STRINGS

Harvey S. Whistler, Ph.D.
Herman A. Hummel, Sc.D.

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Instrumentation

FIRST VIOLIN (First Position)

VIOLA (First Position)

SECOND VIOLIN (First Position)

CELLO (First Position)

Ad Lib. Parts:

THIRD VIOLIN (First Position)

STRING BASS (First Position)

FOURTH VIOLIN (First Position)

PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT

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