

RWS BEGINNING STRINGS SERIES

Grade: 1.5

Conductor Score: RWS-2575-01

Overture Extraordinaire

Jeremy Smith

RWS
Beginning Strings Series

RWS MUSIC
COMPANY

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Overture Extraordinaire

Jeremy Smith

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin 1	8
Violin 2	8
Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)	4
Viola	6
Cello	5
Double Bass	5
Piano (Optional)	1

PROGRAM NOTE

Overture Extraordinaire was originally composed for concert band in the winter of 2021. Along with several other pieces, it was later arranged for string orchestra for the Huntsville Youth Symphony's 2023-2024 season, Alabama the Beautiful—a program celebrating the works of living Alabama composers.

This piece is prim, proper, and stately. It is modeled after the grand concert overtures of the past, balancing elegance with a sense of bold celebration. The music unfolds with a proud melody and conventional yet vibrant harmonies, creating a familiar and new sound.

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

Use contrast to differentiate sections: opening (majestic), middle pizzicato area (m. 25, light and transparent), and the return to forte at m. 41 (re-energized and full).

There are many detached eighth-note motions that must stay buoyant, never heavy—light bow strokes, especially in upper strings.

Rehearse ensemble unison rhythms between strings, particularly Violin 1/2/3 and Viola, as lines interlock and layer.

Think of this piece as a "mini-overture" that pokes fun at itself a bit. Don't take it too seriously—but do take the precision seriously. I hope you and your ensemble enjoy working on this piece. Please visit my composer page at rwsmusic.com to connect!



ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Dr. Jeremy Smith is a composer, arranger, educator, and entrepreneur whose work has been widely performed by ensembles such as the International Contemporary Ensemble, the Nashville Composers Collective, the Perimeter Flute Quartet, the Huntsville Youth Orchestra, and the University of Alabama Concert Band. His music has also been featured at festivals like Sound Now and the International Duo Symposium. Beyond the concert stage, he is a sought-after collaborator across genres, working with numerous pageantry groups, including Music City Drum and Bugle Corps, Chattanooga Independent Percussion Ensemble, Bartlett High School, Clarksville Audio Theatre, Music City Winds, and the University of Alabama Million Dollar Band. His musical contributions can also be heard on the Reckon Radio podcast *Unjustifiable*, which won the National Edward R. Murrow Award for Best Podcast and was narrated by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist John Archibald. He co-owns and operates SouthCoast Music & Design LLC, a company specializing in custom marching band, indoor percussion, and indoor wind shows. His involvement with SouthCoast has led to his designing, arranging, and consulting on over 200 unique productions across over a dozen states. Currently, he serves as the music designer and percussion arranger for the Memphis Blues Drum and Bugle Corps in Memphis, TN. Jeremy resides in Florence, AL, where he is the Executive Director of the Shoals Symphony at UNA. An alumnus of the University of North Alabama, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Instrumental Music with a minor in Philosophy. Additionally, he holds a Master's in Music Theory and Composition from Middle Tennessee State University and a doctorate in Composition from the University of Alabama. He is also an adjunct professor of music at both the University of Alabama and the University of North Alabama.



OVERTURE EXTRAORDINAIRE

Conductor Score

RWS-2575-00

Jeremy Smith

(BMI)

Stately ♩ = 126

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3
(Viola T.C.)

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Piano
(Optional)

f *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

1 2 3 4 5 6

[illegible]

15

Vln. 1 *p* *f*
 Vln. 2 *p* *f*
 Vln. 3 *p* *f*
 Vla. *p* *f*
 Vcl. *p* *f*
 Db. *p* *f*
 Pno. *f*
p *mf*

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

25

Vln. 1 *mp* *p* *mf*
 Vln. 2 *mp* *p* *mf*
 Vln. 3 *mp* *p* *pizz.*
 Vla. *mp* *p* *pizz.*
 Vcl. *p* *f* *p*
 Db. *p* *f* *p*
 Pno. *mp* *p* *mf*

21 22 23 24 25 26

Violins 1 and 2 play a melodic line starting on D4, moving up stepwise to A4. Viola and Cello/Double Bass play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Piano provides harmonic support with chords and arpeggiated figures. A large red watermark 'SAMPLE ONLY - Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

33

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

Db.

Pno.

33 34 35 36 37 38

41

Score for measures 39 to 44. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3, Vla., Vcl., Db., and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *p* (piano). The Pno. part includes a section marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Score for measures 45 to 51. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3, Vla., Vcl., Db., and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The dynamics range from *mf* (mezzo-forte) to *f* (forte). The Pno. part includes a section marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.