

RWS DEVELOPING STRINGS SERIES

Grade: 2

Conductor Score: RWS-2480-01

Stranger Strings

Brian Bankston



DEVELOPING STRINGS SERIES

RWS MUSIC
COMPANY

Stranger Strings

Brian Bankston

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin 1	15
Violin 2	15
Violin 3 (Viola)	3
Viola	6
Cello	5
Double Bass	5
Piano (Optional)	1

PROGRAM NOTE

Are you ready for a little mystery? Get ready for a highly dramatic and intense vibe as we perform this cinematic-sounding work. It is meant to evoke the same character and feeling as compositions heard in movie scores from suspense and mystery films. And now, our performance of **Stranger Strings**.

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

To present the specific character and mood of this piece, the articulations and dynamics should be exaggerated to maximize the drama.

Make the *cresc. poco a poco* very gradual, extending it all the way until the next dynamic marking both times it occurs in the score.

Pay special attention to the violins as they trade melody and ostinato every 2 bars in measures 23-29 and again at measure 55.

Measures 32-39 have a "triumphant feel" and should be played with a very full-sounding *fortissimo*. This should be the loudest section of the entire piece and should contrast the rest of the piece's mysterious and suspenseful character. Ensure your young musicians perform the quarter rests in this section musically, taking a breath in unison.

At 55, the viola, cello, and bass are played only the second time. Be sure to play with a full, balanced forte sound throughout all instruments the last time through this section, driving to the end.

I wish you and your young musicians tons of fun and excitement rehearsing and performing **Stranger Strings**! Please visit my composer page at rwsmusic.com to connect.

Brian Bankston

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Brian Bankston – composer, arranger, educator, saxophonist and guitarist – resides in Alabama. The music of Brian Bankston draws from a large bag of rhythm, bass, harmony and melody that offers a variety of style and mood giving his compositions a unique signature. His compositions are designed to focus on the needs of young Concert Bands, String Orchestras and Jazz Ensembles but acceptable for any level. He creates beautiful and exciting music within the grasp of any eager beginning ensemble as well as music that will challenge a mature ensemble. His experience teaching music at all levels has given him the insight to invent fun, creative and playable works that present the fundamentals of music to students of all ages.



STRANGER STRINGS

Conductor Score
RWS-2480-00

Brian Bankston (ASCAP)

Mysterious ♩ = 92

Violin 1
mf

Violin 2

Violin 3
(Viola)

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Piano
(Optional)
mf

6

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
mf

Vln. 3
mf

Vla.
mf

Vcl.
mf

D.B.
mf

Pno.
mf

6 7 8 9

Faster ♩ = 126

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

sub.*ff*

sub.*ff*

sub.*ff*

sub.*ff*

sub.*ff*

sub.*ff*

sub.*ff*

10 11 12 13 14

15

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

15 16 17 18

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

19 20 21 22

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

23

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

23 24 25 26

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

27

28

29

30

31

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

32

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

32

33

34

35

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

36 37 38 39

40

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

40 41 42 43 44 45

47

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

46 47 48 49 50

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

51 52 53 54

55

Vln. 1 *p-f* arco *cresc. poco a poco* (1st time only)

Vln. 2 *p-f* Play 2nd time only arco *cresc. poco a poco* (1st time only)

Vln. 3 *f* Play 2nd time only arco

Vla. *f* Play 2nd time only arco

Vcl. *f* Play 2nd time only arco

D.B. *f*

Pno. *p-f* Play 2nd time only *cresc. poco a poco* (1st time only)

55 56 57 58 59

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f* Play both times

Vln. 3 *f* Play both times

Vla. *f* Play both times

Vcl. *f* Play both times

D.B. *f* Play both times

Pno. *f* Play both times

60 61 62 63 64