



# DOES THIS PIECE MAKE ME SOUND FLAT?

for String Orchestra

*Bradd Parton*

## INSTRUMENTATION

- 8 – Violin I
- 8 – Violin II
- 5 – Viola
- 5 – Cello
- 5 – Contrabass
- 1 – Rehearsal Piano

Using only quarter notes and half notes in a slower tempo, **Does this Piece Make Me Sound Flat?** is a fantastic and achievable way to introduce cut-time and both high and low B-flat in all instruments. With its fanfare-like nature, *Does this Piece Make Me Sound Flat?* is sure to please students and audiences alike.

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## PROGRAM NOTES

**Does this Piece Make Me Sound Flat?** was written to introduce two musical ideas to younger string players. Cut-time and flats are two concepts that are not often found in early orchestral repertory, and *Does this Piece Make Me Sound Flat?* allows students an opportunity to learn both skills in an achievable and entertaining piece.

**Does this Piece Make Me Sound Flat?** is a brief, fanfare-like selection that can be used to introduce or review B-flat and cut-time. All instruments play B-flat in both high and low octaves with fingerings indicated. All quarter notes should be played full-value with no separation. If the piece is being used as an introduction to cut-time, students may benefit from first playing the tune in a fast four and then transitioning into two. The beginning chord progression can also be used to discuss the difference between G-major and G-minor triads

## ABOUT THE COMPOSER

**Bradd Parton** is a nationally-certified teacher with over twenty years of classroom experience. He has taught music in various forms from the kindergarten to collegiate levels. Mr. Parton currently serves as a middle school orchestra director in Spartanburg (SC) School District One as well as on the adjunct faculty at Presbyterian College. He received a bachelor's degree from Furman University and a master's degree from the University of South Carolina. In addition to music, Mr. Parton is also an active author and illustrator having published over two dozen books for children. He has presented his Alpha-Sketch educational art programs at schools and conferences across the Southeast.

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Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

Rehearsal Piano

7

A

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

Pno.

13

Score for measures 13-18. The score includes staves for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vcl., Bass, and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. A large, stylized watermark is visible across the score.

B

Score for measures 19-24, marked with a section symbol 'B'. The score includes staves for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vcl., Bass, and Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. A large, stylized watermark is visible across the score. Dynamics include *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *mf* (mezzo-forte).

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37

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

Pno.

43

E

V

-1

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49

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

Pno.

F

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

Pno.

