

MYSTERIOUS GIFTS

A Setting of *Simple Gifts* for String Orchestra

Traditional Shaker Tune

arr. Joshua V. Hinkel

(ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

8 – Violin I
8 – Violin II
5 – Viola
5 – Cello
5 – Contrabass

This is a fun and exciting piece that utilizes the popular shaker tune *Simple Gifts*. Apart from the traditional setting of the folk melody, this creation explores the melody through dark and light harmonic structures. At the suggestion of one of his students, Hinkel has taken the famous melody but with a darker twist while remaining exciting and fun to perform. **Mysterious Gifts** also creates several educational and challenging moments where students will explore higher range notes in addition to fourth finger placements.

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PROGRAM NOTES

This is a fun and exciting piece that utilizes the popular shaker tune *Simple Gifts*. Apart from the traditional setting of the folk melody, this creation explores the melody through dark and light harmonic structures. This piece, when created, was the idea of Ethan Buffkin, a Senior orchestra student at Aynor High School in Aynor, South Carolina. He asked the composer to use the famous melody but with a darker twist while remaining exciting and fun to perform. **Mysterious Gifts** also creates several educational and challenging moments where students will explore higher range notes in addition to fourth finger placements.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Joshua V. Hinkel serves as the Orchestra Director, IB Music Director, and Instructor of Piano Studies at Aynor High School in Aynor, South Carolina. Ensembles under his direction have received superior ratings at state festivals in addition to numerous regional, state and circuit championships. Before coming to Aynor, Dr. Hinkel served as the Associate Director of Bands at River Bluff High School, Director of Bands at Ashley Ridge High School in Summerville, South Carolina, Lake View High School in Lake View, South Carolina, and R.H. Rollings Middle School of the Arts in Summerville, South Carolina. In constant demand as a composer, conductor, and arranger, his works can be heard from concert halls of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, ballrooms of the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, to the performing venues of Drum Corps International (DCI), Winter Guard International (WGI) and Bands of America (BOA).

He is a featured concert band composer with C. Alan Publications from Greensboro, North Carolina and Alfred Publishing from Van Nuys, California. Nationally recognized, he is continually in service as a composer/conductor, traveling nationwide, working with students at numerous honor band clinics and festivals. Dr. Hinkel enjoys working with student musicians in the pursuit of creating beautiful and exciting music.

Within the marching arts activity, Dr. Hinkel has written marching arrangements from coast to coast and loves to serve students in their increasing music education. Past composition and arranging appointments have included the Seattle Cascades Drum and Bugle Corps from Seattle, Washington, Spokane Thunder Drum and Bugle Corps from Spokane, Washington, and staff arranging duties for the Coastal Carolina "Spirit of the Chanticleer" Marching Band in their early years. Other musical affiliations have included performing as a member of Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps and starting his professional designing career with the Tampa Bay Thunder Drum and Bugle Corps.

Dr. Hinkel is a member of the Vic Firth Educational Team. He holds the B.M. in Music Education from the University of South Carolina, the M. Ed in Secondary Education from Coastal Carolina University and the Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Liberty University. Dr. Hinkel's passion is to create new and exciting music for students of all ages in addition to teaching life-skills, servanthood, leadership, and the art of music making. He is also a national board certified teacher (NBCT). He resides in Conway, South Carolina and attends NewSpring Church.

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Traditional Shaker Tune
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Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

8

15

16

76

152

152

mf

pp

mp

p

f

div.

arco

pizz.

tr.

unis.

26

22

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

mf

mf

f

div.

unis.

30

28

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

ff

ff

mf

f

mf

ff

f

4

unis.

35

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

f

f

f

f

f

51

59 ♩ = 72

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67 $\text{♩} = 152$

Vln. I *arco* *div.* *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vcl. *f*

Bass *f*

73 *mf* *div.* *mf* *f*

Vln. I *mf* *div.* *mf* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *mf* *f*

Vla. *f*

Vcl. *f*

Bass *f*

79 *ff* *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vln. I *ff* *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vln. II *ff* *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vla. *mf* *f* *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vcl. *f* *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Bass *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

[illegible]

