

BRAZEN

for String Orchestra

Bryan Sanguinito

[ASCAP]

INSTRUMENTATION

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

As its title suggests, **Brazen** is a bold, daring, and unyielding new composition for intermediate string orchestra, written in D minor. After a brief, ominous, and foreboding introduction, a rhythmic ostinato full of accents and triplets (eighth and quarter notes) propels forward this dynamic composition, which is reminiscent of music you might find in an epic adventure or fantasy series on television or in the movies. Combining a fierce and forceful main theme with soft and pensive interludes, your intermediate level students are certain to love this powerful and memorable piece!



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PROGRAM NOTES

I wanted to create a piece of music so captivating that students would remember it many years after performing it. This is that piece of music. From the very first note, this composition is filled with anticipation and excitement for what comes next. My goal was to create an epic work that could be used as the score to any adventure or fantasy series you might find on television or in the theaters.

– Bryan Sanguinito

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Triplets, dynamics, and articulations are EVERYTHING in this composition; they are just as important as the main theme. Play the first four measures as dramatically as possible, and be sure to point out when this introductory theme is reintroduced at measure 57. Be sure to especially work with your students on quarter note triplets vs. eighth note triplets. Also, focus on harmonies, especially the B-flat against the C-sharp at measures 18 and 51.

Strive to create a true contrast at measure 25, and again at measure 49, playing these sections in a peaceful, legato style. Once the triplets come back, be sure to let them dominate. Point out to the violas that at measure 65, they have a vitally important scale pattern which serves as the foundation for everything else that is going on. The *decrescendo* – *crescendo* at measure 71 sets up the final triplet figure, which, for the first time, is in unison for all voice parts. A huge bow lift at 73 will perfectly set up the final five *fortississimo* notes, bringing this powerful piece to a satisfying conclusion.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Bryan Sanguinito, a proud public school music teacher since 1997, has been sharing his love of string orchestra music with elementary through high school students through teaching, conducting, arranging, and composing. He currently serves as a middle school orchestra teacher in the Reading (PA) School District, where, since 2003, he has taught string students from grades 4-9 in twelve different buildings. Before that, he served for six years as the sole string music instructor in the Nazareth (PA) School District, teaching grades 4-12, while developing and establishing the orchestra program there.

A cum laude graduate of Millersville University in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Bryan pursued his post-secondary studies with the University of the Arts (in Philadelphia). His orchestra students have visited multiple festival sites, including Dorney Park, Six Flags Great Adventure, Busch Gardens, and even Disney World. They have won multiple awards at regional festivals, twice winning the highly coveted Music in the Parks “Esprit de Corps” award, honoring the student group that best embodies the spirit of the festivals.

Bryan has served twice as the guest conductor for the Berks County Sixth Grade String Orchestra Festival. For two decades, he advocated for public school students, teachers, and music programs, ultimately becoming a local and regional education association president, featuring student musicians at every in-person event he hosted, in order to stress to other education professionals the importance and power of music education in our public schools.

Bryan and his wife, Laura, live in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, and are happy cat parents. They thoroughly enjoy traveling (especially to sunny locations), playing trivia, exercising, and discovering new places to eat and foods to try.

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Ominously $\text{♩} = 60$ 5 Vigorously $\text{♩} = 120$

Violin I *ff*

Violin II *ff*

Viola *ff* *div.* *unis.* *div.* *unis.*

Cello *ff*

Contrabass *ff*

7 9

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vcl. *mf*

Bass *mf*

14 17

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vcl. *f*

Bass *f*

21

25

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

29

33

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

37

41

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

ff

pp

mp

f

44

49

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

p sub.

51

57

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

f *ff*

p *f* *ff*

59

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

65

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

71

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

p *ff* *fff* *div.*



