

Ice Storm

Matthew Gelfer

1 Full Score

8 Violin 1

8 Violin 2

3 Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)

5 Viola

3 Viola (Violin A.C.)

5 Cello

5 Bass

Extra Part - P3036381

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Program Notes

This original work for intermediate string orchestra depicts the driving winds and icy rain of a bitter winter storm. Set in the dark key of B minor, students will get to explore pizzicato and arco sections, a variety of bowing styles, and syncopated figures that build excitement. The opening should be played quietly, with anticipation. At measure 5, the intensity begins to grow both in volume and through the rising melodic phrases in violins and violas. The pizzicato section at measure 16 depicts the first frozen droplets falling – unrushed, but with tense agitation at the growing storm. This leads to the “swirling of strong winds” beginning at measure 32, where contrary motion between upper and lower strings rises and falls in the snowy tempest. Violins and violas should utilize the whole bow, especially for slurred string crossings, to achieve a strong ringing tone. Likewise, at measure 40, cellos and basses should play out the melody while violins and violas maintain a crisp, precise staccato accompaniment. The momentum continues to build toward a fortissimo conclusion that suddenly – like so many unpredictable storms – drops out of sight, leaving nothing but a frigid landscape frozen in cold silence.

About the Composer

Matthew Gelfer is a multi-instrumentalist performer, educator, composer and arranger with one foot planted firmly in the classical tradition and the other in fiddling and alternative styles. He obtained a degree in film scoring from Berklee College of Music and continued his pedagogical study at CUNY Brooklyn College. He holds a master's degree from Stony Brook University, where his focus was improvisation in the instrumental music classroom. Mr. Gelfer has been a guest conductor, guest artist, and sought-after clinician teaching integration of folk fiddle styles and improvisation. Mr. Gelfer teaches junior high school orchestra in the Huntington School District on Long Island, New York. He can also be seen playing fiddle, guitar and mandolin with his Americana band, The New Students. They have released three albums of original music.

Ice Storm

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Tranquillo ♩ = 60

Musical score for measures 1-4 of 'Ice Storm'. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Tranquillo' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The dynamic marking is *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score shows the following notes:

- Violin 1: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half).
- Violin 2: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half).
- Viola: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half).
- Cello: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half).
- Bass: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half).

5 With Intensity ♩ = 90

Musical score for measures 5-8 of 'Ice Storm'. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'With Intensity' with a quarter note equal to 90 beats per minute. The dynamic markings are *pp* (pianissimo) and *f* (forte). The score shows the following notes:

- Violin 1: Rest (measures 5-6), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter) (measures 7-8).
- Violin 2: Rest (measures 5-6), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter) (measures 7-8).
- Viola: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half) (measures 5-8).
- Cello: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half) (measures 5-8).
- Bass: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half) (measures 5-8).

Ice Storm - Score

9

Musical score for measures 9-12. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 9 and 10 are marked *mf*. Measures 11 and 12 are marked *f*. A dynamic hairpin indicates a crescendo from *mf* to *f* between measures 10 and 11. A fourth measure rest (4) is indicated above the Vln. 2 and Vla. staves in measure 11. The Cello and Bass parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents.

16

Musical score for measures 13-16. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 13 and 14 are marked *mf*. Measures 15 and 16 are marked *mf* and include a *pizz.* (pizzicato) instruction. A dynamic hairpin indicates a crescendo from *mf* to *mf* between measures 14 and 15. The Vln. 1, Vln. 2, and Vla. parts have a whole rest in measure 13. The Cello and Bass parts continue with the rhythmic pattern from the previous system.

Ice Storm - Score

Musical score for measures 17-20. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. A large watermark 'For Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Musical score for measures 21-24. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 21-23 continue the previous patterns. Measure 24 features a change in dynamics and includes the instruction 'arco' with a box containing the number '24'. The Cello part has a 'p' dynamic marking. A large watermark 'For Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Ice Storm - Score

Musical score for measures 25-28. The score is for five instruments: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 25-28 show a melodic line in the strings with various articulations like accents and slurs. Measure 28 ends with a fermata and a '4' above the staff.

Musical score for measures 29-32. The score is for five instruments: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 29-31 show a melodic line in the strings with various articulations like accents and slurs. Measure 32 starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and a box containing the number 32. Measure 32 ends with a fermata and a '4' above the staff.

Ice Storm - Score

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Cello
Bass

Measures 33-36 of the score. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes staves for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. Measure 33 has a '4' above the first violin staff. Measures 34 and 35 have 'x2' and 'x4' markings above the cello staff. Measure 36 has a '-4' marking above the bass staff. A large 'FOR PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid on the page.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Cello
Bass

40

Measures 37-40 of the score. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes staves for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. Measure 40 has a box containing the number '40'. Measures 39 and 40 have a '4' above the violin staves. Measure 40 has a '7' above the violin staves. Dynamic markings include *mp* for measures 39 and 40, and *f* for measure 40. Measure 40 also has a '-1' and '4' marking above the bass staff. A large 'FOR PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid on the page.

Ice Storm - Score

41 42 43 44

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Bass *mf*

45 46 47 48

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Bass *f*

47

Ice Storm - Score

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

49 50 51 52

53

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

53 54 55 56

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.