Lake In The Moonlight From "Swan Lake"

P. I. Tchaikovsky Arranged by Robert Longfield

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Instrumentation

Conductor Score	1
Solo Violin	1
Violin I	
Violin II	
Violin III (Viola substitute)	3
Viola	
Cello	5
Bass	5
Piano.	

Program Notes

Widely considered to be Russia's greatest composer, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (May 7, 1840-November 6, 1893) was a Russian composer of the Romantic period. Through his appearances as a conductor in Europe and the United States, his music was known and admired internationally. His music combines features of both European (Western) and Russian (Eastern) musical traditions, and is known for its memorable melodies and brilliant orchestrations.

Lake In The Moonlight is taken from "Swan Lake," one of Tchaikovsky's three ballets (the others being "The Sleeping Beauty" and "The Nutcracker.") "Swan Lake" was composed between 1875 and 1876, and is based on a German fairy tale. The original performances of "Swan Lake" were not favorably received but, today, the ballet is universally loved, and it is the world's most frequently performed ballet.

Rehearsal and Performance Suggestions

Lake In The Moonlight features some of Tchaikovsky's most expressive and dramatic music, and gives the orchestra the opportunity to display these qualities.

The opening tremolos should be played light and fast, and should create a shimmering effect; like a "lake in the moonlight." The famous oboe solo is played *espressivo* by a solo violin. At m. 19 the melody, now in the viola and cellos, should be played *legato* with long bow strokes.

It is suggested that in measure 38 that the conductor begin conducting in two beats per measure. A beautiful (but optional) effect can be obtained by having the piano part played on a synthesizer with a harp setting (or on an actual harp, if this is possible).

Robert Forgh

I hope you enjoy Lake In The Moonlight.

About the Arranger



Robert Longfield is an award-winning composer, arranger, and educator. Born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, he graduated with honors from the University of Michigan where he studied with Jerry Bilik and Paul Boylan and was a member of the band under William Revelli and George Cavender. He also earned a degree from the University of Miami where he was a student of Alfred Reed.

For fifteen years Mr. Longfield was the band and orchestra director at Davison High School, Davison, Michigan. Since 1987 he has held a similar position at Miami Palmetto Senior High School, Miami, Florida. Mr. Longfield was the recipient of the "Teacher of the Year" award by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association. In 1996 he received the "Mr. Holland Award" from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for outstanding contributions to music education.

A member of ASCAP, Mr. Longfield has received several commissions and his compositions and arrangements have been played and recorded by bands throughout the United States as well as in Europe and Japan.

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LAKE IN THE MOONLIGHT

Conductor Score ARC-7088-00

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