STRING ORCHESTRA SERIES

THE GRASSHOPPER CHOMP

by

R. ANNE SVENDSEN

DURATION: 1'09"

INSTRUMENTATION

1 - Score

4 - Violin Melody

4 - Violin Harmony

2 – Violin Easy

3 – Viola Melody

3 – Viola Harmony

2 – Viola Easy

2 – Cello Melody

2 – Cello Harmony

2 – Double Bass Melody

2 – Double Bass Harmony

1 - Piano

String Music

by Australian Composers

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GRASSHOPPER CHOMP

R. Anne Svendsen

Duration: 1'20" Level: 1

Program Notes:

Grasshopper Chomp is a short work for beginning string orchestras. It encourages students at this level to produce a full tone through the confident use of fast bow strokes. The piece is in the key of D major which is the first key learnt on the violin. Look for the jumping grasshopper of the title in the lively use of the bow, especially during re-takes. Unison rests show us the grasshopper relaxing between leaps.

Rehearsal Notes:

Parts are separated into melody, harmony and easy. This allows for flexible part distribution based on individual abilities within the ensemble.

The playing range is confined to the D and A strings for the upper strings but also includes G string notes in the lower strings. All parts remain in first position.

Rhythmically both the upper string parts are in unison, as are the lower strings. The use of eighth notes encourages the use of energetic bow strokes.

About the Composer:

R. Anne Svendsen graduate from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music majoring in violoncello performance and string pedagogy. She has spent the past twenty years working as a freelance 'cellist in Australia and teaching strings from primary to tertiary level. Anne has tutored at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music and the Central Queensland University and has played with The Queensland, Bolshoi and the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestras. She is currently living in Brisbane, Australia where she continues to teach and compose for student string orchestras. Anne also works as a professional musician with her quartet, *Distant Music*, and with many other professional groups and individuals.

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The Grasshopper Chomp

R. Anne Svendsen



Any combination of violins, violas, cellos and basses can play this setting. Endeavour to balance the parts in violins and violas and then balance the cellos and basses against them. Adding melody in cellos and basses just needs consideration of the impact of depth (or lack of it!) You can even use the melody and piano parts for solo recitals! The violin parts are all printed and available for viola players (in alto clef).





