

ORCHESTRA EXPRESSIONS" SERIES

Robin Hood and Little John



INSTRUMENTATION

- I Conductor
- 8 Ist Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- I Piano Accompaniment



PROGRAM NOTES

The Cornish Dances associated with May Day Celebrations date back many centuries. Cornwall is a distinct cultural entity on the southwest coast of England, and long enjoyed its own language and traditions, including a long association with the King Arthur legends. The story of Robin Hood, generally associated with I2th century England, is one with which all students should be familiar. Little John, Robin's right hand man, was anything but "little"—he was a huge fellow and a fierce fighter. This particular dance was basically a processional, danced by couples. Many of the reels danced in America, such as the Virginia Reel, in which couples face each other in a line, have their origins in much older English folk dances, such as this Cornish May Dance.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This is a dance and should bounce along at a trotting tempo. Keep the quarter notes at the frog and off the string, so the music has great energy. A vigorous bowing style, at the frog, should be used throughout. All half notes should be accented, and played with fast (rather than legato) bow strokes. Each time the first violin line reaches the high G, it should feel like the high point of the phrase. The lower strings have important material and should play these lines with great enthusiasm.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob PhillipsBelwin/Pop String Editor

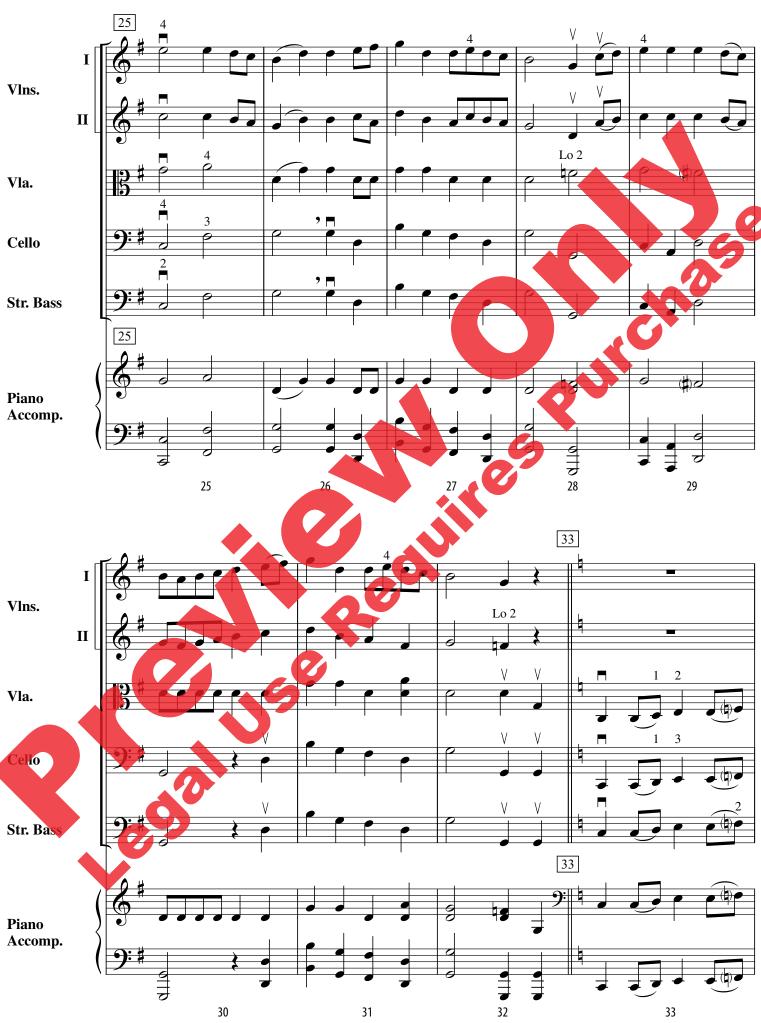


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