Gavotte and Rigadon from Suite in A Minor

GEORG PHILIPP TELEMANN

Arranged by JANET FARRAR-ROYCE

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor
8 1st Violin
8 2nd Violin
5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 String Bass

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Delightful Baroque dance tunes perfectly arranged for string orchestra, these movements could be performed together or individually. Fantastic teaching pieces!

Many of the names we know for Baroque pieces are really the predominant dance step expressed in the music and applied to the binary dance form (AABB). A dance caller then creates the rest of the dance steps around this music and calls out the steps to the dancers as they are doing them. The steps used were originally created in the French courts of King Louis XIV–XVI and were the basis of ballet.

The Gavotte is unusual because it has a two quarter-note pick up. This is because the gavotte steps are "Step, Hop, Land," with the emphasis on the third step, or on the first beat of the measure. The "Step" and the "Hop" are the two quarter-note pick-up notes. Although you can take some liberty for an "Instrumental" or "Music for Listening" style performance, you should not play a gavotte much slower than you can remain in the air when you are hopping!

The rigadon step is quick and light. This is why you see staccato markings under almost all of the quarter notes of this dance. The dancers "Hop-Up" on one foot on the pick-up and then point their other foot out to the side and back, then forward and back on the four beats of the next measure.

In both of these dances, violins and violas might try using alternating 0-4 fingerings to add color to the repeated D and A notes.

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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CONDUCTOR SCORE Duration - 1:45

Georg Philipp Telemann Arranged by Janet Farrar-Royce









II. Rigadon









