

A RIVER RHAPSODY

Richard Meyer (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5

A great way to introduce students to the compositional technique of tone painting, this unique and fun-to-play selection traces the path of an imaginary river. The piece begins with the sounds of a tiny spring, which gradually grows, becoming a stream and then a river flowing adventurously through the mountains and countryside. The piece is divided into seven sections: *The Source*, *Now a Stream*, *Now a River*, *Through a Mountain Village*, *The Rapids*, *Waterfall*, and *On to the Sea*.

Themes from three famous “river pieces” are used to help depict the journey of the waterway—“The Beautiful Blue Danube” (Strauss), “Water Music” (Handel), and “The Moldau” (Smetana). Educational on many levels, yet full of sounds and imagery that every student will readily relate to, this piece offers the developing orchestra a chance to expand its playing abilities in a wide variety of ways.



A River Rhapsody

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 4:00

Richard Meyer (ASCAP)

Flowing (♩ = 120)

The Source

Solo

V

Violins

Viola

Cello

String Bass

1

2

3

4

7

1st Stand

Vlms.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

1st Stand

p

1st Stand

pp

5

6

7

8

9

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

1st Stand

p

10 11 12 13 14

[15] Now a Stream
 Add more players every four measures until everyone is playing at m. 23.

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

p

div.

15 16 17 18

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

p 19 *cresc.* 20 21 22

cresc. *div.*

Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

23 **Now a River**

f *f* *f* *f*

div.

23 24 25 26

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Str. Bass

27 28 29 30 31

div.

V

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Str. Bass

32 33 34 35 36

33

mf

mf

mf

mf

pizz.

mf

x2 x4

V

40

div.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

37 38 39 40 41

44

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

f

mf

f

f

pizz.

f

pizz.

f

42 43 44 45

Through a Mountain Village

Play 2nd time only

46

Vlns.

I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

46

47

48

49

50

Vlns.

I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

54

mp cresc.

1st time

2nd time

mf cresc.*mf* cresc.

non div.

mp cresc.

arco

sim.

mp cresc.

51

52

53

54

55

Score for measures 56-60, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Vlns. I: Measures 56-57 contain rests. Measure 58 begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a crescendo leading to a piano (*p*) dynamic in measure 59. Measure 60 continues the piano line.

Vlns. II: Measure 56 begins with a *V* (Vibrato) marking. Measures 57-58 contain a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a crescendo leading to a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic in measure 59. Measure 60 continues the mezzo-forte line.

Vla.: Measure 56 begins with a *V* marking. Measures 57-58 contain a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a crescendo leading to a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic in measure 59. Measure 60 continues the mezzo-forte line.

Cello: Measures 56-57 contain a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a crescendo leading to a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic in measure 58. Measures 59-60 continue the mezzo-piano line.

Str. Bass: Measures 56-57 contain rests. Measure 58 begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measures 59-60 continue the mezzo-piano line.

Measure numbers 56, 57, 58, 59, and 60 are indicated below the staff.

Score for measures 61-64, featuring Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Vlns. I: Measure 61 begins with a *div.* (divisi) marking. Measures 62-63 continue the divided line. Measure 64 begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 65 (partial) continues the forte line.

Vlns. II: Measures 61-63 contain rests. Measure 64 begins with a *V* marking and a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 65 (partial) continues the forte line.

Vla.: Measures 61-63 contain rests. Measure 64 begins with a *V* marking and a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 65 (partial) continues the forte line.

Cello: Measures 61-63 contain rests. Measure 64 begins with a *V* marking and a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 65 (partial) continues the forte line.

Str. Bass: Measures 61-63 contain rests. Measure 64 begins with a *V* marking and a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 65 (partial) continues the forte line.

Measure numbers 61, 62, 63, and 64 are indicated below the staff.

65

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

f

div.

f

f

65 66 67 68 69

73

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mf

mf

mf

mf

pizz.

mf

70 71 72 73 74

Vlns. I II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

75 76 77 78 79

div.

arco

Vlns. I II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

80 81 82 83

p

84 The Rapids

Score for measures 84-87, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Violins (Vlns.): Part I and II. Dynamics: *mp*.

Viola (Vla.): Dynamics: *mp*.

Cello: Dynamics: *f marc.*. Includes a first ending bracket labeled "x1" at measure 86.

String Bass (Str. Bass): Dynamics: *f marc.*. Includes a second ending bracket labeled "2" at measure 86.

Measures 84, 85, 86, and 87 are indicated at the bottom of the staves.

Score for measures 88-91, featuring Violins (Vlns.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass).

Violins (Vlns.): Part I and II. Dynamics: *mf*.

Viola (Vla.): Dynamics: *mf*.

Cello: Dynamics: *mf*.

String Bass (Str. Bass): Dynamics: *mf*.

Measures 88, 89, 90, and 91 are indicated at the bottom of the staves.

92

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mf

f

f

f

f

92 93 94 95 96

1/2 Pos. -4 1

Waterfall!

100

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

cresc.

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

ff

ff

ff

97 98 99 100 101

Vlns. I
Vlns. II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass

102 103 104 105 106

mf *p* *ff* *1st Pos.* *-4* *p*

Vlns. I
Vlns. II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass

107 108 109 110 111

rit. *cresc.* *f* *div.* *-1* *cresc.* *f*

110 Maestoso (♩ = 96)
On to the Sea

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

112 113 114 115 116

1st Pos.
-1

4

1/2 Pos.
-1

-3

V

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

117 118 119 120 121

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

-2

-2

V

V

V

x4

x2

118

-2

Vlns. I II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

accel.

cresc.

122 123 124 125 126 127

Vlns. I II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Vivace (♩ = 144)

f

f

f

f

sim.

128 129 130 131 132

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Str. Bass

cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.

133 134 135 136 137 138

div.

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla.
 Cello
 Str. Bass

ff
ff
ff
ff
ff

139 140 141 142 143 144 145

div.