

James B. Wilson

Draw a Bucket O' Water

for flexible string ensemble

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For mixed ability, flexible string ensemble

Draw a Bucket O'Water is an adaptation of a lively Bajan folksong. I was drawn to it because of its irrepressible joyfulness. It is definitely an 'ear-worm' melody. The source music describes the pleasure in a simple domestic task: getting water from a well.

The music has been written in a way that enables it to be performed by string players in practically all combinations, as long as part A, B and C are played (from string trio to string orchestra).

Part A is approximately at a grade 5 standard, part B is at a grade 3 level and part C is at the initial grade/Grade 1 level.

The double bass part is optional but would be welcome in a performance by string orchestra.

Tempo is set at 100 BPM but could also be effective at 80 BPM for a more relaxed rendition.

Instrumentation:

At least 3 string players, in any combination, drawn from the following: Violin/Viola/Violoncello, with 1 player for each part (A B C).

Optional: Double Bass player

Draw a Bucket O' Water

- A Bajan folksong

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$\text{♩} = 100$ Joyfully

The musical score is arranged for a string ensemble. It consists of ten staves, each with a specific instrument label on the left. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The tempo and mood are indicated as 'Joyfully' with a quarter note equal to 100 beats per minute. The score is divided into six measures. The first three measures are marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Violin A, Viola A, and Violoncello A parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Violin B, Viola B, and Violoncello B parts play a pattern of quarter notes, with some notes marked 'pizz.' (pizzicato). The Violin C, Viola C, and Violoncello C parts play a sustained, low-frequency line with long notes. The Double Bass (optional) part also plays a sustained line, marked 'pizz.' and *p*.

Violin A *p*

Viola A *p*

Violoncello A *p*

Violin B *p* pizz.

Viola B *p* pizz.

Violoncello B *p* pizz.

Violin C *p*

Viola C *p*

Violoncello C *p*

Double Bass (optional) *p* pizz.

14

Vln. A

Vla. A

Vc. A

Vln. B

Vla. B

Vc. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vc. C

Db.

pizz.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score contains measures 14 through 20. The score is for a string ensemble and includes parts for Violin A, Viola A, Violoncello A, Violin B, Viola B, Violoncello B, Violin C, Viola C, Violoncello C, and Double Bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/8. Measure 14 is marked with a '14' above the staff. The Violin A part has a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. The Viola A and Violoncello A parts have a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The Violoncello A part includes two triplet markings. The Violin B, Viola B, and Violoncello B parts have a similar rhythmic accompaniment. The Violin C, Viola C, and Violoncello C parts have a similar rhythmic accompaniment. The Double Bass part has a rhythmic accompaniment and a 'pizz.' marking in measure 18. The score is written on ten staves, with the first three staves (Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A) grouped together, and the remaining seven staves (Vln. B, Vla. B, Vc. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vc. C, Db.) grouped together.

B

21

Musical score for measures 21-25, featuring Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A, Vln. B, Vla. B, Vc. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vc. C, and Db. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 21-23 show rhythmic patterns with eighth and sixteenth notes. Measure 24 is marked *mp* and features sustained notes with a hairpin crescendo. Measure 25 is marked *p* and features a dynamic shift to piano with a hairpin decrescendo. The Db part is present in measures 21-23 but has a whole rest in measure 24.

Musical score for measures 28-33, featuring Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A, Vln. B, Vla. B, Vc. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vc. C, and Db. The score includes dynamic markings such as *dim.* and *mp*.

Vln. A: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 29: half note G4-A4. Measure 30: half note G4-A4. Measure 31: half note G4-A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *dim.* (measures 28-31), *mp* (measures 32-33).

Vla. A: Alto clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 29: half note G4-A4. Measure 30: half note G4-A4. Measure 31: half note G4-A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *dim.* (measures 28-31), *mp* (measures 32-33).

Vc. A: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 29: half note G4-A4. Measure 30: half note G4-A4. Measure 31: half note G4-A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *dim.* (measures 28-31), *mp* (measures 32-33).

Vln. B: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 29: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 30: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 31: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *mp* (measures 28-33).

Vla. B: Alto clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 29: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 30: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 31: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *mp* (measures 28-33).

Vc. B: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 29: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 30: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 31: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *mp* (measures 28-33).

Vln. C: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: whole rest. Measure 29: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 30: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 31: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *mp* (measures 29-33).

Vla. C: Alto clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: whole rest. Measure 29: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 30: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 31: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *mp* (measures 29-33).

Vc. C: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: whole rest. Measure 29: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 30: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 31: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 32: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Measure 33: quarter note G4, eighth rest, quarter note A4. Dynamic: *mp* (measures 29-33).

Db: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 28: whole rest. Measure 29: whole rest. Measure 30: whole rest. Measure 31: whole rest. Measure 32: whole rest. Measure 33: whole rest.

C

35

This musical score page contains ten staves for string instruments: Violin A, Viola A, Violoncello A, Violin B, Viola B, Violoncello B, Violin C, Viola C, Violoncello C, and Double Bass. The music is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measures 35-40 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with rests. The dynamic marking *cresc.* is present in measures 35-39, and *f* is marked at the start of measure 40. A rehearsal mark 'C' is located at the top right of the page.

42

Vln. A

Vla. A

Vc. A

Vln. B

Vla. B

Vc. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vc. C

Db.

mf

mf

mf

Hit body of bass

mf

49

The musical score consists of nine staves. The first six staves are for Violin A, Viola A, Violoncello A, Violin B, Viola B, and Violoncello B. The last three staves are for Violin C, Viola C, and Violoncello C, which are mostly silent. The bottom staff is for Double Bass (Db.). The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into six measures. The first measure starts with a *mp* dynamic for the first three staves and a *f* dynamic for the last three. The second measure continues with *mp* and *f*. The third measure features triplets in the first three staves and a *f* dynamic. The fourth measure has a crescendo hairpin and a *mf* dynamic. The fifth measure has a decrescendo hairpin and a *mf* dynamic. The sixth measure has a *mf* dynamic. The Double Bass part consists of a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with stems pointing up and down.

Vln. A *mp* *mf*

Vla. A *mp* *mf*

Vc. A *mp* *mf*

Vln. B *f* *mf*

Vla. B *f* *mf*

Vc. B *f* *mf*

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vc. C

Db.

56 **D**

Vln. A *f*

Vln. B *f*

Vla. A *f*

Vla. B *f*

Vc. A *f*

Vc. B *f*

Vln. C *f*

Vla. C *f*

Vc. C *f*

Db. (Double Bass) *f* pizz.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 56 to 61. It features ten staves for various instruments: Violin A, Violin B, Viola A, Viola B, Violoncello A, Violoncello B, Violin C, Viola C, Violoncello C, and Double Bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/8. A section marker 'D' is placed above measure 56. The first three staves (Vln. A, Vln. B, Vla. A) play a melodic line starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, with a fermata over the final note. The next three staves (Vla. B, Vc. A, Vc. B) play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes, starting with a half note G3 and followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4. The Violin C, Viola C, and Violoncello C staves play a steady eighth-note accompaniment starting with a half note G3. The Double Bass part is marked 'pizz.' and plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes starting with a half note G2. Dynamic markings 'f' (forte) are present at the beginning of most parts.

62

Vln. A

Vla. A

Vc. A

Vln. B

Vla. B

Vc. B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Vc. C

Db.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 62, contains ten staves for string instruments. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The first three staves (Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A) are in treble clef, while the remaining seven (Vln. B, Vla. B, Vc. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vc. C, Db.) are in bass clef. The Vln. A and Vla. A parts feature a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The Vc. A part provides a harmonic accompaniment with similar rhythmic patterns. The Vln. B, Vla. B, and Vc. B parts consist of block chords and dyads, often with a moving bass line. The Vln. C, Vla. C, and Vc. C parts play a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Db. part has a simple rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

E

68

Vln. A *p dolce*

Vla. A *p dolce*

Vc. A *p dolce*

Vln. B *pp dolce*

Vla. B *pp dolce*

Vc. B *pp dolce*

Vln. C *pp dolce*

Vla. C *pp dolce*

Vc. C *pp dolce*

Db.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score contains measures 68 through 72. The score is for a string quartet (Violins A and B, Violas A and B, Cellos A and B) and a double bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 68-71 show the instruments playing various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. In measure 72, there is a dynamic shift to *p* for the first three staves and *pp* for the remaining staves, all with the instruction *dolce*. A section marker 'E' is located at the top right of the page.

74

Vln. A *mp*

Vln. B *p* *pp* *p* *p*

Vla. A *mp*

Vla. B *p* *pp* *p* *p*

Vc. B *p* *pp* *p* *p*

Vc. C *p* *pp* *p* *p*

Vla. C *p* *pp* *p* *p*

Vc. C *p* *pp* *p* *p*

Db. *mp*

This musical score page contains nine staves for string instruments and one for double bass. The instruments are Violin A, Violin B, Violin C, Viola A, Viola B, Viola C, Violoncello A, Violoncello B, Violoncello C, and Double Bass (Db.). The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. Measures 82-87 are shown. The first three staves (Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A) feature a melodic line with triplets in measures 82 and 83, followed by a dynamic shift from *mf* to *p* in measure 84. The remaining staves (Vln. B, Vla. B, Vc. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vc. C) play sustained notes with a dynamic shift from *mp* to *p* in measure 84. The Double Bass staff (Db.) plays a simple harmonic accompaniment.

89 **F**

Vln. A *f*

Vla. A *f*

Vc. A *f*

Vln. B *f*

Vla. B *f*

Vc. B *f*

Vln. C *mf* *f*

Vla. C *mf* *f*

Vc. C *mf* *f*

Db. *arco* *mf* *f*

96

This musical score page contains nine staves for string instruments and a double bass. The instruments are labeled on the left as Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A, Vln. B, Vla. B, Vc. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vc. C, and Db. The music is in 3/8 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score is divided into six measures. Measures 96-98 show a melodic line in the first three staves (Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A) and a rhythmic accompaniment in the remaining staves. Measures 99-101 feature a dynamic shift to *ff* (fortissimo) and a change in texture, with the first three staves playing sustained notes and the remaining staves playing rapid sixteenth-note patterns. The double bass (Db) part has a more active role in measures 99-101, playing eighth-note patterns.

102

This musical score page contains ten staves, each with a label on the left: Vln. A, Vla. A, Vc. A, Vln. B, Vla. B, Vc. B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Vc. C, and Db. The music is written in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. Measures 102-104 show a gradual decrease in volume, indicated by the *dim.* marking. In measure 105, the volume increases to a mezzo-piano level, indicated by the *mp* marking. The Vln. A, Vla. A, and Vc. A staves feature melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Vln. B, Vla. B, and Vc. B staves play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The Vln. C, Vla. C, and Vc. C staves play a steady eighth-note pattern. The Db. staff provides a bass line with occasional rests.

H

108

The musical score consists of five systems of staves, each representing a different instrument. The first system includes Violin A (Vln. A), Viola A (Vla. A), and Violoncello A (Vc. A). The second system includes Violin B (Vln. B), Viola B (Vla. B), and Violoncello B (Vc. B). The third system includes Violin C (Vln. C), Viola C (Vla. C), and Violoncello C (Vc. C). The fourth system is for the Double Bass (Db.).

Measure 108: Vln. A, Vla. A, and Vc. A play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a *pizz.* instruction. Vln. B, Vla. B, and Vc. B play a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf*. Vln. C, Vla. C, and Vc. C play a sustained note with a dynamic marking of *mf*. Db. plays a sustained note with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a *pizz.* instruction.

Measure 109: Vln. A, Vla. A, and Vc. A continue their rhythmic pattern. Vln. B, Vla. B, and Vc. B continue their melodic line. Vln. C, Vla. C, and Vc. C continue their sustained note. Db. continues its sustained note.

Measure 110: Vln. A, Vla. A, and Vc. A continue their rhythmic pattern. Vln. B, Vla. B, and Vc. B continue their melodic line. Vln. C, Vla. C, and Vc. C continue their sustained note. Db. continues its sustained note.

Measure 111: Vln. A, Vla. A, and Vc. A continue their rhythmic pattern. Vln. B, Vla. B, and Vc. B continue their melodic line. Vln. C, Vla. C, and Vc. C continue their sustained note. Db. continues its sustained note.

112

Vln. A *p cresc.* *f*

Vla. A *p cresc.* *f*

Vc. A *p cresc.* *f*

Vln. B *p cresc.* *f*

Vla. B *p cresc.* *f*

Vc. B *p cresc.* *f*

Vln. C *pizz.* *p cresc.* *f*

Vla. C *pizz.* *p cresc.* *f*

Vc. C *pizz.* *p cresc.* *f*

Db. *p cresc.* *f*