




# SIMPLY *for* STRINGS





## — EDUCATION —





Level 6 - IM Strings  
DET EQ Curriculum





Key concepts for this level can be found on page 20 of the [IM curriculum](#).

# AUSTRALIAN REPERTOIRE

Title	Composer	Publisher	Publisher Level	EQ IM Level	Overview and relation to EQ curriculum
A Celtic Gathering 	Keith Sharp	Music House	3	6	<b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">A Celtic Gathering</a> This river dance for middle to high school strings is an enjoyable play for all and an audience pleaser. Light-hearted accompanying syncopations, 12/8 time, string slaps and fiddle themes are set with sufficient technical interest and challenge to engage a range of playing standards across the ensemble. Optional cello extension and kit part.
Allegro in G 	Stephen Chin	Everything String	3	5 - 7	<b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Allegro in G</a> <b>LOOK:</b> <a href="#">Allegro in G</a> <b>LISTEN:</b> <a href="#">Allegro in G</a> This arrangement of Pleyel's Duet opus 8 no. 2 introduces students to the disciplines of Classical period music. All parts of the ensemble have a highlight. Includes spiccato quavers, slurred string crossings, martele crotchets, three-note chord (the only level 7 concept). Musical maturity needed for this work.
Allegro Furioso 	Neridah Oostenbroek	Notable Notes	3.5	4 - 9	<b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Allegro Furioso</a> <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Allegro Furioso</a> Fast and furious throughout. Crisp opening motif, well articulated, so the following legato sections sing. Dynamic variations for the intensity and drama required. C minor middle section to be smooth and romantic with vibrato. Great for players and challenges their rhythmic and ensemble skills.
And All Creatures Sang	Stephen Chin	Everything String	2	6 - 7	<b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">And All Creatures Sang</a> <b>LOOK:</b> <a href="#">And All Creatures Sang</a> <b>LISTEN:</b> <a href="#">And All Creatures Sang</a>

					<p>This piece celebrates the wonder of every living creature including humankind. Mixed metre marks this work at levels 6/7, but overall other concepts are simpler. tremolos, a beautiful yet simple melody, mixed metre, optional percussion and piano parts, col legno, harmonics, pizzicato, incisive staccato and a spot-light moment for a solo string quartet are just some of the varying textures that drive this most triumphant work.</p> <p><math>\frac{3}{4}</math> and <math>\frac{4}{4}</math> time, D major. Solo section for quartet included. Violin 1 opening with a simple but beautiful melody which leads into the cellos overtaking. Piano really supports this work.</p>
<p>Carnival of Venice Variations</p> 	Loreta Fin	Wilfin Music	3	6+	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Carnival of Venice Variations</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Carnival of Venice Variations</a></p> <p>The music evokes the joyful atmosphere of the famous Carnevale di Venezia, with its colourful characters and beautifully painted masks. Instantly recognisable melody, and the variations explore major and minor keys, string crossing and fast semiquaver passages. Optional piano part, 6/8 time, G major. A great arrangement by Loreta! Highly recommended for students to have access to this classical favourite.</p>
<p>Dramatique</p> 	Neridah Oostenbroek	Notable Notes	3.5	6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Dramatique</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Dramatique</a></p> <p>An exhilarating piece, rhythmically based while the constantly changing time signatures. The opening section is intended to be spiccato. There are some contrasting legato melodies in the middle section with position work required. The opening melody returns at the end and culminates in a thrilling finish!</p>
<p>Gypsy Fire</p> 	Neridah Oostenbroek	Wilfin	3.5 - 4	4 - 9	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Gypsy Fire</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Gypsy Fire</a></p> <p>Captures the spirit of the Hungarian Czardas, featuring a dramatic solo violin at the beginning, the main melody begins slowly and then accelerates to a wild theme in the upper strings. The middle section modulates to A major with a saccharine melody in the cellos and violas. The main melody then returns for a fiery ending. Great fun and develops technical, rhythmic and ensemble skills.</p>
<p>Lacrymosa</p>	Loreta Fin	Wilfin	3.5	6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Lacrymosa from Requiem in D Minor</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Lacrymosa from Requiem in D Minor</a></p>

<p>From Requiem in D minor</p> 					<p>The choral parts are shared by the upper strings and the "tears" mostly fall from the celli. A beautiful and emotional work. Good introduction to 12/8 time.</p>
<p>Lux Angelis</p> 	Stephen Chin	Everything String	4, 2, 1	6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Lux Angelis</a>  <b>LISTEN:</b> <a href="#">Lux Angelis</a></p> <p>Lux Angelis means "Light of the Angels" and is an advanced string orchestra work that may be played with optional grade 1 strings, grade 2 strings, keyboard and percussion. Cut common time, suspended chords, harmonics, two interjecting sections that have much rhythmic drive and dissonance. In the composer's opinion, light will always be more resilient and enduring and the piece accordingly concludes with what can be imagined to be a chorus of angels bathed in heavenly light.</p>
<p>River Song</p> 	Keith Sharp	Music House	4	5 - 6	<p><b>BUY:</b> Please contact us  <b>LISTEN:</b> <a href="#">River Song</a></p> <p>A rich, lyrical piece with contrasting "rustic" middle section and musical interest shared evenly between the parts. A program depicting the course of a river underlies this composition. The Celtic-style themes and rolling cello line appeal to students and audiences alike. An ideal selection for high school ensemble.</p>
<p>Riverfiddle</p> 	Timo Jarvela	Laker Music	6	3	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Riverfiddle</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Riverfiddle</a>.</p> <p>Riverfiddle is a great piece with which to feature your violin players! No knowledge of 'authentic' fiddle playing is required. In its most basic form, Riverfiddle can be performed with just one violin and piano. For the full effect, add more violins, (electric) bass, and perhaps even drums to the mix! Repeating bars 23 – 60 is an option to lengthen the piece. Performance in a band format (no conductor necessary) and from memory is recommended. Includes 12/8 time, ornamentation, syncopation, key changes, double stops, violins 3rd position.</p>

<p>Russian Fantasy</p> 	Timo Jarvela	Laker Music	3	4 - 6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Russian Fantasy</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Russian Fantasy</a></p> <p>Different musical moods presented in Russian Fantasy make for an enjoyable playing and listening experience. Position work is required in some of the parts. Written for advancing players, the piece requires navigation through numerous tempo changes, varied stroke work, and capturing the different musical moods, which range from lively and joyous to those of melancholy and pathos. D minor, 3<sup>rd</sup> position/violin, accelerando, tremolo, lento.</p>
<p>The Spaniard</p> 	Keith Sharp	Music House Pub	3	4 - 6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">The Spaniard</a></p> <p>An atmospheric work first celebrating the adventurous naval exploits of an heroic captain in the name of his Queen and country. This memorable piece, brimming with lyrical melodies within a ternary construction, will appeal to audience and students from middle to high school. D minor. Time signatures change to ¾, elements of curriculum 4 - 6 across instruments.</p>
<p>The Tattered Kilt</p> 	Keith Sharp	Music House	3	6 - 7	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">The Tattered Kilt</a></p> <p><b>This quasi jig has light-hearted “limping” accompanying syncopations and Celtic style fiddle themes, set with sufficient technical interest and challenge to engage a range of playing standards. Sharing of melody, harmony, obligato and accompanying roles.</b></p>
<p>Three Chorales</p> 	Loreta Fin	Wilfin	3	4-6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Three Chorales</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Three Chorales</a></p> <p>These three short chorales (G major, G minor, G major) are useful for training ensembles to listen for pure intonation. Vibrato and tone quality focus, pauses, upbeats. Dynamics are suggested to assist with the shaping of phrases. Each chorale can stand alone, as a processional or recessional for special occasions and ceremonies, or can be performed as one work. Bowing can also be adjusted if desired.</p>

# INTERNATIONAL REPERTOIRE

A Percy Grainger Portrait	Percy Grainger	Belwin	3	4 – 6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">A Percy Grainger Portrait</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">A Percy Grainger Portrait</a></p> <p>String-friendly arrangement. Included are “Irish Tune from County Derry,” “Mock Morris,” “My Robin Is to the Greenwood Gone,” and “Children’s March: Over the Hills and Far Away.” Highly musical programming written to bring out the very best from your players.</p>
A-Flat	arr. Larry Moore	Hal Leonard	N/A	6+	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">A-Flat</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">A-Flat</a></p> <p>Small elements of Level 6. Violins and cellos have to move positions; no other main curriculum elements as such. Catchy concert piece! NOT in A-flat key! A minor. 4/4 time. Energetic with contrasting themes between violin solo and ensemble. Violin solo to open piece, spiccato, violins 3rd position and small 4th position, 3rd and 4th position for cellos.</p>
Dynasty	Kathryn Griesinger	FJH	3	4 - 6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Dynasty</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Dynasty</a></p> <p>Good revision of Level 4 concepts with introduction of portato (level 6). Good for sight reading at Level 4.</p> <p>Bold, heroic themes of fierce warriors and noble rulers rise through subtle pentatonic harmonies that suggest mighty Chinese dynasties. great teaching piece to focus on slurred string crossings while staying in first position.</p> <p>Hook stroke, 6/8 time, good movement, easy accidentals throughout. Portato introduction (slight). No position work except for double bass. F naturals, extension 3rd fingers. 6/8 to ¾ timing crossing. D major.</p>
Healing Light	John Leavitt	Hal Leonard	N/A		<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Healing Light</a></p>

					6/8 timing, very reliant on percussion (three parts). Perfect to introduce vibrato.
If Thou be Near	Carrie Lane Gruselle	FJH	2.5	6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">If Thou be Near</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">If Thou be Near</a></p> <p>Carefully arranged here for string ensemble in a version that is perfect for teaching legato, expressive style.</p>
Midnight Howl	Katie O'Hara LaBrie	Belwin	3	6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Midnight Howl</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Midnight Howl</a></p> <p>Has a tango feel. Glissando, tremolo, syncopation, and clapping. Written primarily using the G harmonic minor scale. Feel free to add a "hooooowl" at the end for an extra thrill!</p>
Orange Jam	Jeffrey Bishop	KJOS	3	6	<p><b>BUY:</b> Please contact us  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Orange Jam</a></p> <p>Give your students a shot at this exciting work that lets them imitate rock guitar sounds. This is a straightforward rock piece that is both energetic and fun to play! The G minor/modal tonality really lets the open strings ring out. Your orchestra will love jamming to this piece at any time of the year. The final words of the composer's notes say it all: "Have Fun!"  Position work – Glissando</p>
Rubicon	Doug Spata	Highland Etling	3	6	<p><b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Rubicon</a>  <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Rubicon</a></p> <p>Written to help students understand the concept of positions, this entire piece can be played by the violins, violas, and cellos in 3rd position with no shifting! Playing in positions is often a challenging hurdle for many young musicians yet an important prerequisite for advanced techniques. The rhythms are kept very simple so students can focus on playing in a new way.  All in position work...  G minor/Bb Major.</p>

Sadness and Sorrow	Musashi, arr. Larry Moore	FJH	N/A	6 - see notes	<b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Sadness and Sorrow</a> <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Sadness and Sorrow</a> (concert band version)  Relies on the piano. Long, sustained notes with American feel. Good for vibrato introduction. A little 3rd position in violins; not much else for other parts. A healthy contrasting work at 3:00 in length. Level 6 from a vibrato point of view.
Struggle in the Shadows	Brian Balmages	FJH	3	3 - 6	<b>BUY:</b> <a href="#">Struggle in the Shadows</a> <b>WATCH:</b> <a href="#">Struggle in the Shadows</a>  String quartet with string ensemble. Violin solo. Piano needed. 4th position cellos, 2nd position. Beautiful! Long, legato bows and bow control, tone colours can be introduced with bowing techniques if required.  Level 6 for quartet, level 3 for ensemble.
Themes From the Moldau	Smetana Arranged Robert Frost	Kendor	2+ 3	6	<b>BUY:</b> Please contact us  E minor, G major, E major. Presents three themes. The first and last portions are set in a dramatic, flowing 6/8 meter, while the energetic wedding dance is in 2/4 time. Everyone plays a prominent role in this sophisticated concert presentation. Includes portato, loure, shifting to 3 <sup>rd</sup> position for violins.

This document has been created and is managed by Teegan Dowdell, Education Manager of Simply for Strings Pty Ltd, to assist school teachers with selecting string orchestra works appropriate for their teaching needs. All documents are independent of Education Queensland and are the property of Simply for Strings Pty Ltd. All prices and information correct at time of publication (April 2020).

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