by Judy Hellmers

DIVERTIMENTO for Chamber Orchestra

Brendan Collins (b. 1965) Wirripang Press https://www.australiancomposers.com. au/products/divertimento-2?_pos=8&_ sid=c39616c8d&_ss=r

Brendan Collins, a professional brass player and prolific composer has written a very exciting and wellstructured piece which was commissioned for the Barker College Chamber Orchestra in 2022. Whether it be for a school or local string ensemble it is a very melodic and wellstructured work for grade 5 and above, with many challenges for intonation, rhythm and bow control.

The first movement Presto is an exciting start, with the melody transferred between all sections of the ensemble with notable accents, dynamic changes and syncopated rhythms.

Largo is a beautifully melodic, rich and lush movement with many dynamic swells and passionate moments with echoes of romantic Elgar string repertoire filtering through. The melody is transferred cleverly throughout the ensemble for all sections to enjoy the wonderful richness of the moment.

The Scherzo movement is lively with well placed accents spread between each section and challenging syncopated sections in the first violins.

The Finale is a rocketing Allegro Vivo with dotted rhythm challenges and the need for good use of bow control for the many slurred staccato notations throughout. Overall, a very well written and enjoyable piece for both

performer and audience.

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