Iphigenia in Aulis

Overture

By Christoph Willibald von Gluck

Arranged by Kirk Moss

— INSTRUMENTATION –

- 1 Conductor
- 8 1st Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass

Hear the drama in Gluck's most popular opera overture, now abridged for string orchestra. The clearly marked bowings and fingerings will save precious rehearsal time and lead to a more sophisticated sound.

PROGRAM NOTES

Gluck's overture captures the drama of King Agamemnon's unfortunate desire to sacrifice his daughter to the gods to generate winds to propel his fleet to war with the Trojans. The opera, premiered in Paris in 1774, was based on the original Greek Euripides play refashioned by French dramatist Jean Racine as *Iphigénie en Aulide*.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Take note of three moments where the strings replicate the sound of full-orchestra instruments. The double bass pizzicato sections mimic the timpani part, hence the use of the open G-string. Similarly, cello whole notes beginning in m. 45 use the half-string D Karmonic to imitate a bassoon accompaniment. The ending whole notes played by the upper strings emulate the woodwind section. For shifting and spiccato exercises to refine the performance, see Sound Innovations: Sound Development (Alfred Music).

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.

Belwin/Pop String Editor



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