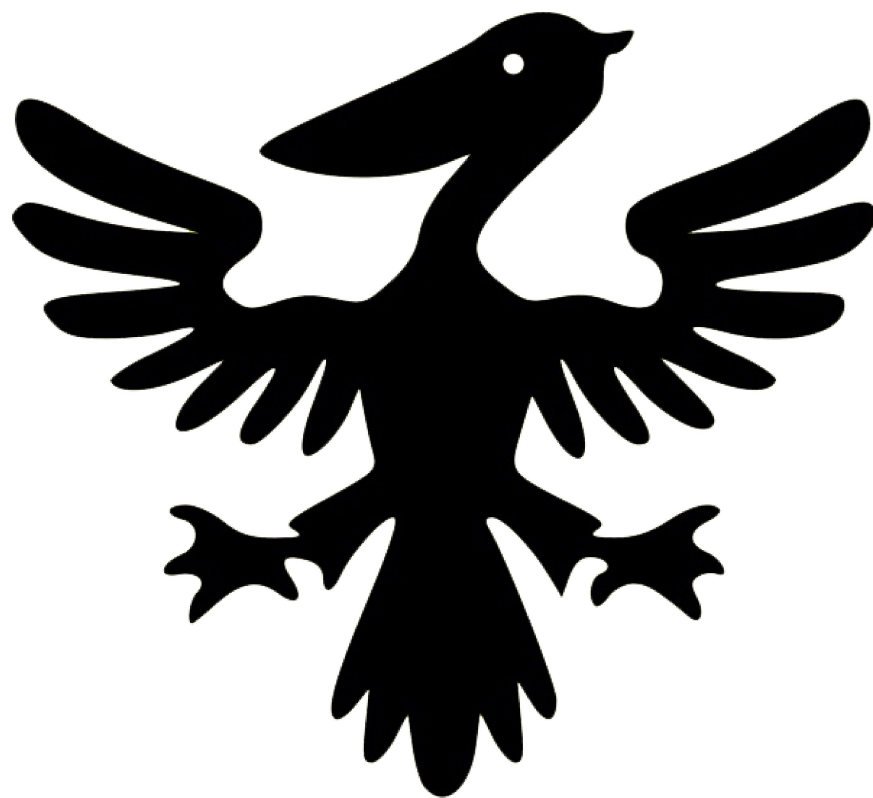


Syldavian Dances

for
String Orchestra

Johan Ullén
(2023)



Syldavian Dances for String Orchestra

I.

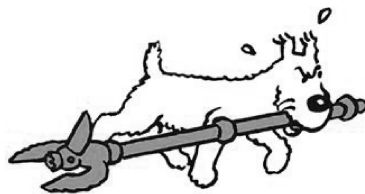
Welcome to the mountains of Zymylpathia!

II.

Nocturnal serenade in the valleys of the river Moltus: songs and fiddles of the shepherds

III.

Festivities in Klow: "Blushtika" dance, coronation of King Muskar XII, church bells and hymns.



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The composer's notes

"The Syldavian motto, "Eih bennek, eih blavek", often translated as "Here I Am, Here I Stay", really says it all about the Syldavian mind: stubborn but hospitable.

During my extensive travels through the picturesque landscapes of the Kingdom of the Black Pelican, I did not have to wait many days before I was generously given the opportunity to study their folk music up close.

I was fascinated by the abrupt changes between major and minor tonality, the frequent use of lydian and mixolydian scales (as well as scales that do not have a formal name), the fast and carefree national dance of "Blushtika", the old slavie church hymns, the exhilarating accelerandos, the deep drones and the baffling virtuosic fiddle playing by simple shepherds.

This composition is based on my memories, musical notes and field recordings from this small but unforgettable land on the Balkan Peninsula."

Johan Ullén, Stockholm, 15th of May 1943*

*(or is it currently the year 2023? I can not tell anymore.)

Commissioned by Skallsjö Sommarorkester

Syldavian Dances

"Eih bennek, eih blavek"

I.

Welcome to the mountains of Zymylpathia!

Allegretto vivace (♩=72)

Johan Ullén (2023)

Violini I

Violini II

Viola

Violoncelli

Contrabassi

This system contains the first five staves of the musical score. Violini I and II play a melody of eighth notes with sixteenth-note triplets, marked *f*. The Viola plays a sustained chord, marked *p*. The Violoncelli and Contrabassi play a bass line, with the Contrabassi marked *f* and *pizz.*. The time signature is 4/4, and the key signature has one flat.

VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

This system contains the next five staves. Violini I and II continue their melody, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The Viola plays a solo line, marked *ff* and *solli sempre (until bar 28)*. The Violoncelli and Contrabassi play a bass line, with the Contrabassi marked *mf* and *arco*. The time signature changes to 3/4, and the key signature has two flats.

[illegible]

A

14

VI. I

div. a 2

mf *p* *f* *p* *ff* *ff* *p* *mp*

VI. II

unis.

mf *p* *f* *p* *ff* *f* *mp*

Vle.

mf *ff* 3 *poco portamento* *mf cantabile*

Vlc.

mf *f* *mp*

Cb.

pizz *mf* *arco* *mp*

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[illegible]

B

29

VI. I *ff cantabile* *ff* *3* *f*

VI. II *ff cantabile* *f* *ff* *3* *f* *ff*

Vle. *ff cantabile* *f* *ff* *0* *f*

Vlc. *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Cb. *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

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53

VI. I *mf*

VI. II *mf*

Vle. *mf*

Vlc. *mf*

Cb. *mf*

div. pizz.

unis. arco.

58

VI. I *p* *mp* *f*

VI. II *p* *mp* *f*

Vle. *p* *mp* *f* *p*

Vlc. *p* *mp* *f* *p*

Cb. *p* *mp* *f* *p*

div. 3 3

unis.

poco rall.

D Poco meno mosso (♩=64)

63

VI. I *pp*

VI. II *pp*

Vle. *p*

Vlc. *mp cantabile.*

Cb. *p*

solo

tutti

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VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

68

p

mp

mf

mp

VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

73

mp

mf

mf

mf

mf

poco accel.

E A tempo (♩=72)

VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

78

f

f

f

f

f

tutti

div.

90

VI. I

f 3 *gliss.* *p* 3 *f* *p* 3 *f* 3 *gliss.*

VI. II

f 3 *gliss.* *p* 3 *f* *p* 3 *f* 3 *gliss.*

Vle.

f *f* *p* *f*

Vlc.

f 6 *p* *f* *p* *f* 6

Cb.

f *f* *p* *f*

95 **G** L'istesso tempo (♩=72) accel.

VI. I pizz. *ff* *pp*

VI. II pizz. *ff* *pp* arco 6 6 pizz. *pp* arco 6 6 pizz. *pp* arco 6 6 pizz. *pp*

Vle. *ff* *pp*

Vlc. pizz. *ff* *pp*

Cb. *ff* *pp* *pp*

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...al (♩=100)

H Half tempo (♩=50) accel.

VI. I 105 arco *pp* *portamento*

VI. II arco 6 6 6 6 *pp* *portamento*

Vle. arco *pp*

Vlc. arco *pp*

Cb. *pp*

I Allegretto (♩=88)

VI. I 111 *p* *f* *mp*

VI. II *p* *f* *mp*

Vle. *p* *f* *mp*

Vlc. *p* *f* *mp*

Cb. div. *p* unis. arco *mp*

accel.

VI. I 117 *mf* *p* *mf* *mf*

VI. II *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vle. div. *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* unis. *mf*

Vlc. *mf*

Cb. pizz. *mf* arco

J Poco allegro (♩=110) **accel.**

122

VI. I *mf*

VI. II *mf*

Vle. *mf*

Vlc. *mf*

Cb. *mf* div. pizz. unis. arco

Allegro (♩=132) **accel.**

126

VI. I *f* 3 *p* *f* *fp* *f*

VI. II *f*

Vle. *f* pizz. arco pizz. div. arco

Vlc. *f* pizz. arco pizz. arco

Cb. *f*

K Presto (♩=140)

130

VI. I *ff*

VI. II *ff* div. unis.

Vle. *ff* unis.

Vlc. *ff*

Cb. *ff* pizz. arco pizz.

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133

VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

arco

pizz

arco

div.

unis.

ff

5

136

VI. I
div. a 2
fff
f
fff

VI. II
unis.
fff
f
fff

Vle.
soli
fff
f
fff

Vlc.
div. a 2
pizz.
fff
arco
f
fff

Cb.
pizz.
div. a 2
pizz.
fff
arco
f
fff

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