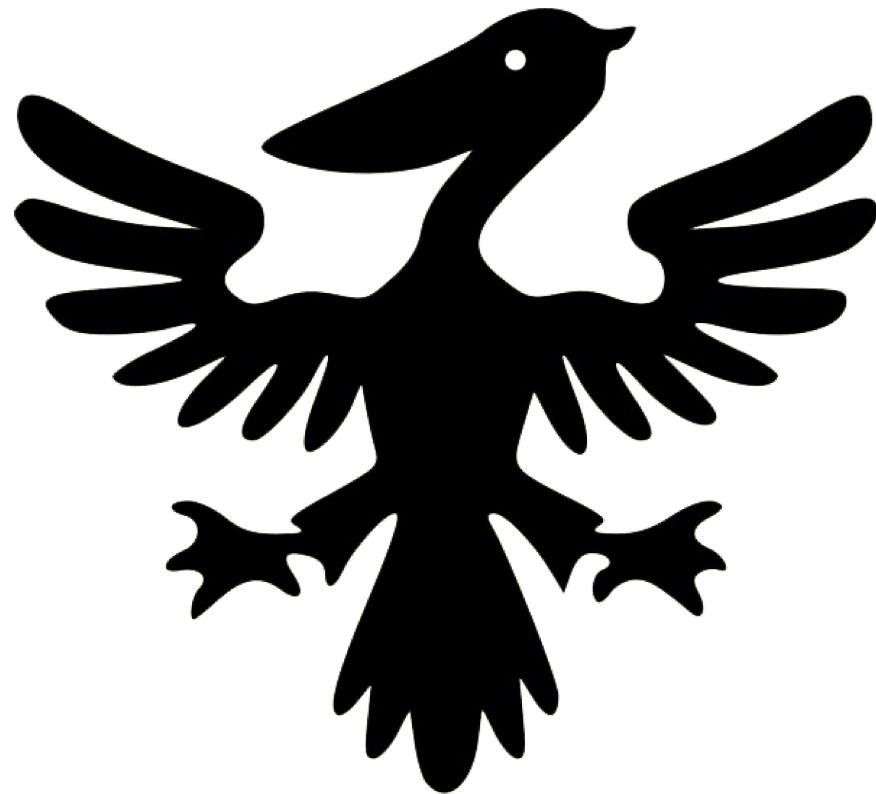


Syldavian Dances

for
String Orchestra

Johan Ullén
(2023)



Syldavian Dances
for String Orchestra

I.

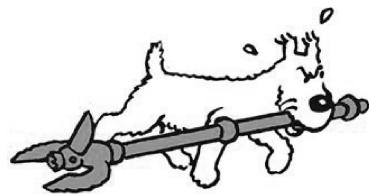
Welcome to the mountains of Zymylpathia!

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 slavic 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!

Johan Ullén (2023)

Allegretto vivace (♩=72)

Violini I

Violini II

Viole

Violoncelli

Contrabassi



VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

soli sempre (until bar 28)

ff sempre

arco

mf

div.

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6

Vl. I

Vl. II

Vlc.

Vle.

Cb.

pizz.

trem.

unis. 3

f

mp

10

Vl. I

Vl. II

Vlc.

Vle.

Cb.

div.

mp

tr.

ff

arco

unis.

f

3

3

f

3

A

14

Vl. I

Vl. II

Vlc.

Vle.

Cb.

div. *mf* — *p*

a 2

f — *p* — *ff*

ff — *p*

mf — *p*

f — *p* — *ff*

ff

unis.

poco portamento

mf cantabile

ff 3

mp

mp

mf

pizz

arco

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Musical score for orchestra, page 19, measures 19-24. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vl. I), Violin II (Vl. II), Viola (Vle.), Cello (Vlc.), and Double Bass (Cb.). The instrumentation is as follows:

- Vl. I:** Starts with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *mp*. Measure 19 ends with a forte dynamic *f*. Measure 20 begins with sixteenth-note patterns in 2/4 time. Measures 21-22 show continuous sixteenth-note patterns in 3/4 time. Measure 23 starts with sixteenth-note patterns in 2/4 time. Measure 24 ends with a dynamic *mp*.
- Vl. II:** Starts with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measures 20-23 continue with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time. Measure 24 ends with a dynamic *mp*.
- Vle.:** Starts with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *ff*. Measures 20-22 continue with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time. Measure 23 starts with sixteenth-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. Measure 24 ends with a dynamic *ff*.
- Vlc.:** Starts with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *f*. Measures 20-22 continue with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time. Measure 23 starts with eighth-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 24 ends with eighth-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *p*.
- Cb.:** Starts with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *f*. Measures 20-22 continue with eighth-note patterns in 3/4 time. Measure 23 starts with eighth-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 24 ends with eighth-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *p*, with markings "pizz" and "arco".

2

Musical score for orchestra, page 24, measures 24-28. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vl. I), Violin II (Vl. II), Viola (Vle.), Cello (C. b.), and Double Bass (Vlc.). The instrumentation is as follows:

- Vl. I:** Measures 24-25: 16th-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. Measure 26: 16th-note patterns in 6/8 time, dynamic *mp*. Measure 27: 16th-note patterns in 6/8 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 28: 16th-note patterns in 6/8 time, dynamic *f*.
- Vl. II:** Measures 24-25: 16th-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. Measure 26: 16th-note patterns in 6/8 time, dynamic *mp*. Measure 27: 16th-note patterns in 6/8 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 28: 16th-note patterns in 6/8 time, dynamic *f*.
- Vle.:** Measures 24-25: 16th-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *f*. Measure 26: 16th-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 27: 16th-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *f*. Measure 28: 16th-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *ff*.
- Vlc.:** Measures 24-25: 16th-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 26: 16th-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *p*. Measure 27: 16th-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 28: 16th-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *f*.
- Cb.:** Measures 24-25: 16th-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 26: 16th-note patterns in 2/4 time, dynamic *p*. Measure 27: 16th-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *mf*. Measure 28: 16th-note patterns in 3/4 time, dynamic *ff*.

Performance instructions include "unis." (unison) markings above the Vl. I and Vl. II staves, and "div." (divisi) markings above the Vle. and Vlc. staves.

2

B

29

Vl. I ff cantabile ff ³ f

Vl. II ff cantabile f sul IV ³ ff f ff

Vle. ff cantabile f ff f

Vlc. mf ff ff mf ff ff mf

Cb. mf ff ff mf ff ff mf

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34

VI. I ff mf

VI. II mf f

div.

Vle. ff mf

unis.

Vlc. ff mf

Cb. ff mf div. unis.

=

40

VI. I 3 3

f mp

C

VI. II 3 3

f mp marcato

Vle. f mp

Vlc. 6 6 6 6

Cb. f mp

=

46

VI. I f 3

tr

VI. II f marc.

6 6

mp marcato

Vle. f cantabile

6 6

mp

Vlc. f 6 6

p

Cb. mp f

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Musical score for orchestra, page 53, measures 1-10. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vi. I), Violin II (Vi. II), Cello (Cb.), Bassoon (Vlc.), and Clarinet (Vle.). The instrumentation changes frequently, indicated by measure numbers (1, 2, 3) above the staves. Measure 1: Vi. I (mf) has a sustained note. Measure 2: Vi. I (mf) has a melodic line. Measure 3: Vi. I (mf) has a melodic line. Measure 4: Vi. II (mf) has a melodic line. Measure 5: Vi. II (mf) has a melodic line. Measure 6: Vlc. (mf) has a rhythmic pattern of sixteenth notes. Measure 7: Vlc. (mf) has a rhythmic pattern of sixteenth notes. Measure 8: Vlc. (mf) has a rhythmic pattern of sixteenth notes. Measure 9: Vlc. (mf) has a rhythmic pattern of sixteenth notes. Measure 10: Vlc. (mf) has a rhythmic pattern of sixteenth notes. Measure 11: Cb. (mf) has a sustained note.

二

Musical score for orchestra, page 58, measures 58-63. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vl. I), Violin II (Vl. II), Viola (Vle.), Cello (Cb.), and Bassoon (Vlc.). The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 58: Vl. I starts at *p*, followed by a measure at *mp*. Measure 59: Vl. II starts at *p*, followed by a measure at *mp*. Measure 60: Vle. starts at *p*, followed by a measure at *mp*. Measure 61: Vlc. starts at *p*, followed by a measure at *mp*. Measure 62: Cb. starts at *p*. Measure 63: All parts play eighth-note patterns. Vl. I ends at *f*. Vl. II ends at *f*. Vle. ends at *f*. Vlc. ends at *p*. Cb. ends at *p*. Measure 64: All parts play eighth-note patterns. Vl. I ends at *p*. Vl. II ends at *p*. Vle. ends at *p*. Vlc. ends at *p*. Cb. ends at *p*.

2

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68

Vl. I

Vl. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

poco accel.

73

Vl. I

Vl. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

E A tempo ($\text{♩} = 72$)

78

Vl. I

Vl. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

tutti

div.

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84

F

VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

unis.

pizz.

f p f p

≡

90

gliss.

VI. I

VI. II

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

f 3 p 3 f p 3 f 3 f

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

gliss. f p 3 f p 3 f 3 f

≡

95

G L'istesso tempo ($\text{♩} = 72$) accel.

pizz.

VI. I

ff pp

pizz. arco 6 6 pizz. arco 6 6 pizz. arco 6 6 pizz.

VI. II

ff pp

Vle.

Vlc.

Cb.

ff pp

pizz.

ff pp

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105 ...al ($\text{♩}=100$) **H** Half tempo ($\text{♩}=50$) accel. portamento

VI. I arco *pp*

VI. II arco 6 *pp*

Vle. arco *pp*

Vlc. arco *pp*

Cb. - *pp*

≡

111 **I** Allegretto ($\text{♩}=88$)

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

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

Vle. *p* *f* *mp*

Vlc. *p* *f* *mp*

Cb. div. unis. arco *mp*

≡

accel.

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

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

Vle. *mp* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Vlc. *mf* *mf* *mf*

Cb. pizz. arco *mf*

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J Poco allegro ($\text{♩} = 110$)

122

Vi. I accel.

Vi. II *mf*

Vle. *mf*

Vlc. *mf*

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

Allegro ($\text{♩} = 132$)

126

Vi. I *f* trem. *f* *sfp* *f*

Vi. II *f*

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

Vlc. *f* pizz. arco pizz. arco

Cb. *f*

K Presto ($\text{♩} = 140$)

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

ff

Vi. II

ff

div.

Vle.

ff

unis.

Vlc.

arco

pizz

arco

Cb.

=

136

Vi. I

fff

div. a 2

fff

f 3

fff

f 3

fff

Vi. II

unis.

fff

f 3

fff

Vle.

soli

fff

f 3

fff

Vlc.

pizz.

fff

div. a 2

pizz.

f 3

fff

arco

Cb.

fff

div. a 2

pizz.

f 3

fff

arco

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