

Ken Davies

Strings Ablaze

for String Orchestra

Recommended Minimum 22 Players

6 Violins I
6 Violins II
4 Violas
4 Violoncellos
2 Contrabasses

High School Edition

KD 800 HS

kenvad music
www.kendavies.net

Program Note

This is a fast, fanfare-like piece for traditional string orchestra. It was inspired in part by John Adams' *Short Ride In A Fast Machine*. Several rhythmic and melodic ostinatos help drive the piece forward, interrupted briefly by dynamic changes in rhythms and accents, but never letting up in the excitement until the end. The work was first performed in February 2014 by Jooyong Ahn and the University of Tennessee - Chattanooga Orchestra at the Southeastern Composers' League Forum and Festival. In February of 2016, *Strings Ablaze* was featured at the Society of Composers Region VI Conference and Festival where Eric Crawford and the Wichita High School East Philharmonic Orchestra gave it a rousing and memorable performance. In May 2016 the work was selected a winner of New York City's Composers' Concordance Generations Concert Orchestral Call For Scores. The honor and performance, unfortunately, had to be passed on to another because the composer could not attend the concert as required due to a previous engagement.

Composer Bio

Wisconsin native Ken Davies has had acoustic and electronic works performed at numerous new music festivals such as the Society of Composers, Electroacoustic Barn Dance, Southeastern Composers League (he is a past president), Electronic Music Midwest, International Trombone Festival, National Association of Composers USA, Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, Parma Music Festival, London New Wind Festival (UK), and Sonic Coast (UK). Since 2002, he resides in coastal south Mississippi with his poet wife and their two cats. Awards include the Mississippi Arts Commission's Performing Arts Fellowship for Composition (twice, 2006-07 and 2012-13), the Mississippi Music Teachers' Association's Commissioned Composer Of The Year (2013), and winner of the 2009 American Trombone Workshop National Composition Competition sponsored by the U.S. Army Band. His music studies were at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Yale University, Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro (MA trombone), and the University of Colorado at Boulder (MM composition). His music is published by Kenvad Music, Visit at www.kendavies.net.

Strings Ablaze

Score

Performance time 5:13

for string orchestra

KEN DAVIES

Allegro ♩ = 120 recommended minimum players 22 - 6.6.4.4.2

The image displays a musical score for a string orchestra piece titled "Strings Ablaze" by Ken Davies. The score is presented in a preview format, with a large, semi-transparent watermark reading "THIS COPY FOR PREVIEW ONLY" overlaid across the center. The score is written for five parts: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The music is in 4/4 time and begins with a tempo marking of "Allegro" and a metronome setting of 120. The first system shows the Violin 2, Viola, and Contrabass parts. The Violin 2 and Viola parts are marked with a dynamic of *mf* and include a "div." (divisi) marking. The Contrabass part is marked with a dynamic of *mf* and includes a "pizz." (pizzicato) marking. The second system shows the Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Contrabass parts. The Violin 1 part is marked with a dynamic of *mf* and includes a "div." marking. The Violin 2, Viola, and Contrabass parts are also marked with a dynamic of *mf*. The score is written in a standard musical notation style, with notes, rests, and performance markings clearly visible.

7

Musical score for measures 7-9. The score is for a string ensemble with five parts: Vn 1 (Violin 1), Vn 2 (Violin 2), Va (Viola), Vc (Violoncello), and Cb (Contrabasso). Measure 7 starts with a dynamic marking of *v* (pizzicato) for Vn 1. Vn 2, Va, and Cb have a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. Vc is silent. Measure 8 continues the patterns. Measure 9 shows Vn 1 with a *v* marking and a melodic line, while Vn 2, Va, and Cb continue their rhythmic accompaniment.

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10

Musical score for measures 10-12. Vn 1 has a melodic line with *v* markings. Vn 2, Va, and Cb continue their rhythmic accompaniment. Va has a *div.* (divisi) marking. Vc has a *mf* (mezzo-forte) marking. Measure 11 shows Vn 1 with a *v* marking and a melodic line, while Vn 2, Va, and Cb continue their rhythmic accompaniment. Measure 12 continues the patterns.

13 15

Musical score for measures 13-15, featuring five staves: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (V).

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16

Musical score for measures 16-18, featuring five staves: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (V).

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19

Musical score for measures 19-21, featuring five staves: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The score is divided into three measures with time signatures of 5/4 and 4/4. The music consists of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations and slurs.

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22

Musical score for measures 22-24, featuring five staves: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The score is divided into three measures with time signatures of 5/4 and 4/4. The music continues with rhythmic patterns, including dynamic markings like *f* and *f*, and articulations like *V*.

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26

Musical score for measures 26-29. The score is for five string instruments: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 3/4 to 2/4 at measure 27, and then to 4/4 at measure 28. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

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30

Musical score for measures 30-32. The score is for five string instruments: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. Measure 30 contains a dynamic marking of *mf*. Measure 31 contains a dynamic marking of *mf* and a performance instruction *32 di.*. Measure 32 contains a dynamic marking of *mf*. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

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34

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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38

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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42

Musical score for measures 42-45. The score is for a string ensemble with five parts: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The time signature is 3/4. The music features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes. A large watermark 'THIS COPY' is overlaid on the score.

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46

Musical score for measures 46-49. The score is for a string ensemble with five parts: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The time signature is 3/4. The music features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes. A large watermark 'PREVIEW ONLY' is overlaid on the score. The word 'div.' is written above some notes in the Vn 1, Vn 2, and Vc parts.

PREVIEW

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Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

p

p

p

0

0

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54

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

mf

mf

mf

58

Musical score for measures 58-61. The score is for a string quartet with parts for Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The music is in 7/8 time and features a complex rhythmic pattern with eighth and sixteenth notes. A large watermark 'THIS COPY' is overlaid on the score.

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62

Musical score for measures 62-65. The score continues with the same string quartet parts (Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, Cb) and rhythmic complexity as the previous section. A large watermark 'PREVIEW ONLY' is overlaid on the score.

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66

Musical score for measures 66-69. The score is for five string parts: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The music is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large watermark 'THIS COPY' is overlaid on the score.

70

Musical score for measures 70-73. The score is for five string parts: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The music is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large watermark 'FOR PREVIEW ONLY' is overlaid on the score.

74

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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78

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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82

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

0

0

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Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 82 through 85. It features five staves: Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The notation includes various rhythmic patterns and accidentals. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "THIS COPY FOR PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the center of the page, partially obscuring the musical staves.

86

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 86 through 89. It features the same five staves as the previous block: Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The notation continues with similar rhythmic and melodic patterns. The large watermark "THIS COPY FOR PREVIEW ONLY" remains visible over the score.

90

div. *f*

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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94

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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98

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 98 through 101. It features five staves: Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabasso (Cb). The notation includes various note values, rests, and accidentals. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "THIS COPY FOR PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the center of the page, partially obscuring the musical staves.

102

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 102 through 105. It features the same five staves as the first system: Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabasso (Cb). The notation continues with various note values and rests. The same large, semi-transparent watermark "THIS COPY FOR PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the page.

106

Musical score for measures 106-107. The score is for a string ensemble with five parts: Vn 1 (Violin 1), Vn 2 (Violin 2), Va (Viola), Vc (Violoncello), and Cb (Contrabasso). The notation includes various note values, rests, and phrasing slurs. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4.

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108

Musical score for measures 108-109. The score continues with the same five parts: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The notation includes various note values, rests, and phrasing slurs. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4.

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110

Musical score for measures 110-112. The score is for five string parts: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. Measures 110 and 111 show rhythmic patterns with accents and slurs. Measure 112 features a sustained tremolo in the upper strings and a whole note in the lower strings.

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113

Musical score for measures 113-115. The score is for five string parts: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. Measure 113 has a box around the measure number. Measure 113 features a tremolo in the upper strings and a *f* dynamic. Measure 114 features a *mp* dynamic. Measure 115 features a *mf* dynamic. The score includes various articulations like accents and slurs.

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116

Musical score for measures 116-118. The score includes staves for Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. Vn 1 has a rest in measures 116 and 117, then enters in measure 118 with a melodic line marked *mf*. Vn 2 plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Va plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Vc plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Cb has a rest.

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119

Musical score for measures 119-121. The score includes staves for Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. Vn 1 and Vn 2 play melodic lines. Va plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Vc plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Cb has a rest.

122

123

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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126

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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130

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

div. V

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FOR

135

134

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

p *ff* *p* *mf*

p *ff* *p* *mf*

p *ff* *p* *mf*

p *ff* *p* *mf*

p *ff* *p* *mf*

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138

Musical score for measures 138-141, featuring five staves: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The notation includes various rhythmic values and accidentals.

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142

Musical score for measures 142-145, featuring five staves: Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, and Cb. The notation includes various rhythmic values and accidentals.

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146 147

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

div. *f*

div. *f*

div. *f*

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149

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

PREVIEW ONLY

152

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

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155

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

fp

ff

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