

Teaching Double Bass Technique Through Orchestral Excerpts

For Beginning and Intermediate Bassists

Presented by Sidney A. King

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Basic Articulation

Fiddles on Fire by Mark Williams, Grade 1

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29 *Play 2nd time only*

30 31 32 33

34 35 36 37

Basic Pizzicato Technique and Left Hand Shape

Apollo Suite by Merle J. Isaac, Grade 1

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Allegretto

musical score for *Apollo Suite* by Merle J. Isaac, Grade 1, featuring pizzicato technique and left hand shape. The score is in 4/4 time, key of D major (two sharps), and marked *Allegretto*. It begins with a *pizz.* (pizzicato) instruction and a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic. The first staff shows measures 1 through 8, with fingerings 1, 4, 1, 2, and 4 indicated above the notes. A circled measure number 9 is placed below the staff. The second staff continues from measure 9 to 16. The third staff shows measures 17 through 20, with a circled measure number 17 and a *p* (piano) dynamic marking below the staff.

Slurs and String Crossings

Dragon Dances by Soon Hee Newbold, Grade 2

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musical score for *Dragon Dances* by Soon Hee Newbold, Grade 2, featuring slurs and string crossings. The score is in 4/4 time, key of D major (two sharps). It begins with measure 46 and continues through measure 59. Measures 46 through 50 are grouped by a slur. Measure 51 is marked with a *V* (accents) symbol. Measures 52 through 56 are also grouped by a slur. Measure 57 is marked with a *V* symbol. Measures 58 and 59 are grouped by a slur. The score includes various string crossings and slurs to indicate phrasing and technique.

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Bow Technique: Spiccato

Can-Can by Jacques Offenbach, arr. Richard Meyer, Grade 1

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27 *arco*
p

28 29 30 31 *spiccato*
cresc.

32 33 *simile*

34 35 36 37 *ff*

38

39 40 41 42 43

44 45 46 47 48 49

50 51 52

Left Hand Speed and Bow Usage

Dance of the Tumblers by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov, arr. Sandra Dackow, Grade 2

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18 *div.* *V*
ff

19 20 21 22 23

* Divide according to Players' ability

Shifting, String Crossings and Articulation

From *"Toccatina"* by William Hofeldt, Grade 3

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Measures 47-57 of the musical score for "Toccatina" by William Hofeldt, Grade 3. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music features various articulation and dynamics markings. Measures 47-50 show a descending sequence of eighth notes with accents and a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking. Measure 51 includes an *arco* (arco) marking and a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic. Measures 52-57 show a series of eighth notes with accents and a *mp* dynamic. Fingering numbers (1, 2, 3, 4) are indicated above several notes. A box around measure 55 indicates a shift.

Shifting, Vibrato and Pivot

Conquistador! by Deborah Baker Monday, Grade 2

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Measures 22-40 of the musical score for "Conquistador!" by Deborah Baker Monday, Grade 2. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music features various articulation and dynamics markings. Measures 22-24 show a sequence of eighth notes. Measure 25 includes a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking and a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic. Measures 26-32 show a sequence of eighth notes with accents and a *mf* dynamic. Measure 33 includes an *arco* (arco) marking and a *f* (forte) dynamic. Measures 34-40 show a sequence of eighth notes with accents and a *f* dynamic. Fingering numbers (1, 2, 3, 4) are indicated above several notes. A box around measure 25 indicates a shift.

Legato, Lyric Playing, Finger Spacing and Dynamics

Luminescence by Alan Lee Silva, Grade 1.5

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19 Slightly Slower

19 *mf* *legato* 20 *f* 21 22 23 *mf* 24 *f*

27 Tempo I *espressivo-bring out*

25 26 27 *legato* 28 29

30 31 32 33

Half Position and Shifting

Russian Sailor's Dance by Rheinhold Gliere, arr. Michael Allen, Grade 3

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Allegro ♩ = 120

f

8 1 - 1 2 4 0 1 - 1 4 0 - 1 2

mf *cresc.*

4 - 1 2 4

15 *f* *cresc. poco a poco*

22 *ff*

Bowing Patterns

Serenade for String Orchestra, movement IV, by Norman Leydon, Grade 3

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ff

4

ppp

ff

ff sempre

Pivot, Shifting, Hooked Bowings, etc.

Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 by J. S. Bach, arr. Merle J. Isaac, Grade 3

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f

II

I

2

4

1

1

57

f

II

I

4

1

4

1

pivot

2

1

V

mf

II

4

2

4

4

1

4

pivot

1

4

66

1

0

2

4

1

4

4

2

1

4

4

pivot

2

1

4

-

I

II

I

II

1

p

III

I

II

Harmonics: Notation and Execution

From *"Variations on a Well-Known Sea Chantey,"* Grade 3

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The image displays two staves of musical notation in bass clef, illustrating the notation and execution of harmonics. The first staff begins with the instruction *(pizz.)* and a finger number *0* above the first note. The notes are marked with fingerings: *3* above the first note, *0* above the second, and *2* above the subsequent notes. A repeat sign is placed after the fourth note. The second staff begins with the instruction *p (D Str.)* below the first note. The notes are marked with fingerings: *2* above the first, *2* above the second, and *0* above the subsequent notes. The notation includes a final double bar line with repeat dots.