



**Micro Pro Musica Press
San Francisco, California**

**William Severson Compositions
Irregular Resolutions
MPMP05009**

Threnody

Violin and Viola Duet

By

William Severson (1941-)

\$10.00 US

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Threnody: A Solemn Dance

for all who have lost their lives from AIDS

William Severson (1941 -)

Andante ♩ = 62

Violin

Viola

mp *p*

Vln.

Vla.

mp *p*

Vln.

Vla.

mp *p*

Vln.

Vla.

p *mp* *p*

Vln.

Vla.

p *mp* *p*

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35

Vln.

Vla.

This system contains measures 35 through 40. The Violin part (Vln.) is in the treble clef, and the Viola part (Vla.) is in the bass clef. Both parts feature a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, often grouped in pairs. Measures 36, 37, and 39 contain triplets of eighth notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4.

41

Vln.

Vla.

This system contains measures 41 through 45. The Violin part (Vln.) continues the melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. Measures 42, 43, and 44 contain triplets of eighth notes. The Viola part (Vla.) provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

46

Vln.

Vla.

This system contains measures 46 through 48. The Violin part (Vln.) features a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. The Viola part (Vla.) continues with eighth notes and quarter notes. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

49

Vln.

Vla.

This system contains measures 49 through 53. The Violin part (Vln.) has a more active melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. The Viola part (Vla.) continues with eighth notes and quarter notes. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

54

Vln.

Vla.

This system contains measures 54 through 58. The Violin part (Vln.) features a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. Measures 54, 55, and 57 contain triplets of eighth notes. The Viola part (Vla.) continues with eighth notes and quarter notes. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

61

Vln.

Vla.

68

Vln.

Vla.

75

Vln.

Vla.

mf

mf

82

Vln.

Vla.

allarg

This duet comes from an image of the hypnotic slow dance of lives that were cut short. They are dancing the joys and sorrows of their lives. The joys and sorrows are represented by the major and minor harmonies that seem to shift from one to the other culminating in both sounding together. I ended the piece in a major—minor chord to protest the really shameful response of our Governments to the AIDS plague.

— William Severson, San Francisco, February 22, 2008

Threnody: A Solemn Dance

for all who have lost their lives from AIDS

William Severson (1941 -)

Andante $\text{♩} = 62$

Viola 1

Viola 2

mp *p*

Vln.

Vla.

mp *p*

mp *p*

Vln.

Vla.

mp *p*

mp

Vln.

Vla.

mp

p *mp* *p*

Vln.

Vla.

p *mp*

mp

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35

Vln.

Vla.

41

Vln.

Vla.

46

Vln.

Vla.

49

Vln.

Vla.

54

Vln.

Vla.

The image displays a musical score for a duet between Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.). The score is divided into four systems, each containing two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The first system starts at measure 61. The second system starts at measure 68. The third system starts at measure 75 and includes a *mf* dynamic marking above the violin staff and below the viola staff. The fourth system starts at measure 82 and includes a *mf* dynamic marking below the viola staff and an *allarg* marking above the violin staff. The score features various musical notations including slurs, triplets (marked with '3'), and fermatas. The piece concludes with a final chord in the violin staff.

This duet comes from an image of the hypnotic slow dance of lives that were cut short. They are dancing the joys and sorrows of their lives. The joys and sorrows are represented by the major and minor harmonies that seem to shift from one to the other culminating in both sounding together. I ended the piece in a major—minor chord to protest the really shameful response of our Governments to the AIDS plague.

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