

Bezhit Reka

(The River Runs)

For String Orchestra

Arranged By

Marsha Chusmir Shapiro

Complete String Orchestra Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
10 - Violin I
10 - Violin II
8 - Viola
8 - Cello
6 - Contrabass

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BEZHIT REKA PROGRAM NOTES

About the Music:

The origins of **Bezhit Reka** (translated as “the River Runs” or “the River Flows”) is somewhat murky. In most sources it appears as a Russian folksong or a Russian song of romance. However, there are ties to a former Soviet Union composer, Eduard Kolmanovsky (1923-1994) who may have written music for a screenplay incorporating the melody. The River Runs/Flows has been recorded by a great number of artists, but in its various forms and reincarnations, the tune is often barely recognizable.

Marsha Chusmir Shapiro has adapted this haunting melody for string orchestra. As with most of her compositions and arrangements, Mrs. Shapiro gives each instrumentalist opportunities to play “singable” melodic lines by incorporating horizontal as well as vertical scoring.

About the Composer:

Marsha Chusmir Shapiro earned her Bachelors and Masters Degrees in music education from Florida State University and became certified in social studies education. Mrs. Shapiro was the winner of the 1985 National School Orchestra Association Composition Competition and was named 1994 Florida “Global Educator” by SIRS and the Florida Council for the Social Studies. She is the author of numerous published orchestral and elementary school musical compositions. Marsha Chusmir Shapiro has been teaching in Volusia County, Florida since 1972.



Bezhit Reka (The River Runs)

Time 6:30

Russian Folk Song
arr. by Marsha Chusmir Shapiro

Slowly ♩ = 50

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

7

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

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13

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp

mp

mf

mf

19

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

mf

mf

mf

25

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp

mp

div.

29

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

34

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

40

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.