

# “B-SUITE” FOR STRINGS

(I. Be-Boppin’ Bourrée II. Bittersweet Berceuse III. Brazilian Bagatelle)

By Carrie Lane Gruselle

## INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5
Harp (optional)	1

## “B-SUITE” FOR STRINGS

The letter B appears to have unusual significance in music. We all know of the “Three B’s” (Bach, Beethoven and Brahms) and, curiously, there are many forms or styles of music that begin with B: barcarole, ballade, bolero, bagatelle, blues, etc.

The first movement of “*B-Suite*” for Strings, “Be-Boppin Bourrée,” is a juxtaposition of two styles. In this bourrée, the seventeenth century French dance experiences jazzy interruptions.

Movement two is a “Bittersweet Berceuse.” Since many of us associate major keys with “happy” and minor keys with “sad,” this berceuse (or lullaby) weaves between major and minor—providing an uncertain sense of modality. It leaves us feeling not quite happy or sad.

The “Brazilian Bagatelle” (a bagatelle being a short, whimsical piece) is characterized by Latin-American rhythms and is infused with quartal harmonies (chords built with notes that are four steps apart rather than the customary three).

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# "B-Suite" for Strings

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 6:00

## I. Be-Boppin' Bourrée

Carrie Lane Gruselle

**Brightly** (♩ = 126)

Violins I *mf*

Violins II *mf*

Viola *mf*

Cello *mf*

String Bass *mf*

Violins I *mp* *f* *mf*

Violins II *mp* *f* *mf*

Viola *mp* *f* *mf*

Cello *mp* *f* *mf*

String Bass *mp* *f* *mf*

swing eighths

straight eighths

swing eighths

swing eighths

swing eighths

1. 7

1/2 pos. 1 pos.

9 <sup>2.</sup> swing eighths 10 11 12 13

Vlns. I *mp*

Vlns. II *f* *swing eighths* *mp* *mp*

Vla. *f* *swing eighths* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Cello *f* *swing eighths* *pizz.* *x2* *mp*

Str. Bass *f* *swing eighths* *pizz.* *mp*

14 15 16 17 18

Vlns. I *mp* *mf* *f* *mf* *straight eighths*

Vlns. II *mf* *mp* *f* *mf* *straight eighths*

Vla. *mp* *f* *straight eighths*

Cello *f* *arco*

Str. Bass *f* *arco*



## II. Bittersweet Berceuse

Bashfully (♩ = 42)

5 a tempo

Violins I

Violins II

Viola

Cello

String Bass

*mp* *p* *p* *mp* *p*

2 3 4 *poco rit.*

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

6 7 8 9 10 11

*pizz.* *pizz.*

12 13 14 15 *poco rit.* 16 **a tempo**

Vlns. I *mf*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *p* *arco* *mf*

Cello *p* *arco* *mf*

Str. Bass *p* *arco* *pizz.* *mf*

17 18 19 20 21

Vlns. I *f* *p* *pp*

Vlns. II *mf* *p* *pp*

Vla. *p* *pp*

Cello *p* *pp*

Str. Bass

22 23 24 25 26

Vlns. I *p* *fp*

Vlns. II *p* *fp*

Vla. *p* *fp*

Cello *p* *fp* solo, ad libitum

Str. Bass arco *p* *fp*

27 28 29 30 31

Vlns. I *molto dim.* *ppp* *pp*

Vlns. II *molto dim.* *ppp* *pp*

Vla. *molto dim.* *ppp* *pp*

Cello *molto dim.* *ppp* *pp*

Str. Bass *molto dim.* *ppp* *pp*

solo, ad libitum

*molto rit.* tutti



### III. Brazilian Bagatelle

**Briskly** (♩ = 132)

**Violins**  
I  
II

**Viola**

**Cello**

**String Bass**

2 3 4 5

*mf* *pizz.*

6 7 8 9 10

*arco* *f* *pizz.*

**Vlins.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

*f* *pizz.*

11

Vlns. I arco *mf* 12 *p* 13 pizz. 14 arco *mf* 15

Vlns. II arco *mf* 12 *p* 13 pizz. 14 arco *mf* 15

Vla. arco *mf* 12 *p* 13 pizz. 14 arco *mf* 15

Cello *mf* 12 *p* 13 pizz. *mf* 15

Str. Bass *mf* 12 *p* 13 pizz. *mf* 15

16 17 18 19 pizz. 20

Vlns. I arco 16 17 18 19 pizz. 20

Vlns. II arco 16 17 18 19 pizz. 20

Vla. arco 16 17 18 19 pizz. 20

Cello arco 16 17 18 19 pizz. 20

Str. Bass arco 16 17 18 19 pizz. 20

21 22 23 24 25

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

arco

(pizz.)

26 27 28 29 30 31

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

pizz.

*mp*

*f*

1st time solo *cantabile*

2nd time tutti

*mf*

*f*

*mp*

3 3

32 33 34 35 36

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

37 38 39 40 41 42

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

43

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

44 arco *mf*

45

46 pizz.

47

48 arco *f*

49

50 *mf*

51

52 pizz. *p*

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

53 arco V V 54 55 56 57

I Vlns. *mf* *f*

II Vlns. *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Cello *mf* *f*

Str. Bass *mf* *f*

58 59 60 61 62

I Vlns. *ff*

II Vlns. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Cello *ff*

Str. Bass *ff*

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