

Iridescence

For String Orchestra

*Written for the Royal Oak Middle School String Orchestra
in memory of Sarah Elizabeth Klaus*



Chris Evan Hass

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Instrumentation

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass

Program Notes

Iridescence was written for the Royal Oak Middle School String Orchestra in memory of Sarah Elizabeth Klaus, a 7th grade viola student who passed away in 2019. Rather than a somber elegy, the piece is a bittersweet celebration of Sarah's life and happy spirit, taking harmonic inspiration from one of Sarah's favorite songs, Secrets by OneRepublic. The title Iridescence refers to the shimmering and glowing display of color that shifts depending on the observer's point of view. Since this phenomenon is commonly seen in soap bubbles, clouds, butterfly wings, and other natural objects often associated with childhood, the title represents Sarah's bright personality and childlike wonder. The piece portrays these shifting colors by alternating between parallel major and minor keys and constantly changing the accompanimental textures and orchestration around an unwavering melody.

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Adagio ♩ = 72-80

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass, measures 1-5. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The dynamics are marked *mp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4), and *mp* (measure 5). A *V* (Vibrato) marking is present above the first notes of measures 2 and 3. A hairpin crescendo is shown between measures 3 and 4, and a hairpin decrescendo between measures 4 and 5.

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass, measures 6-9. A box labeled **A** is positioned above measure 6. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The dynamics are marked *mf* (measures 6-7), *p* (measures 8-9). A *V* (Vibrato) marking is present above the first notes of measures 6 and 7. A hairpin decrescendo is shown between measures 7 and 8.

24 **C**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

mp

mf

mp

mf

mp

mf

mp

mf

30 **D**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

mp

mf

p

mp

mf

p

mp

mf

p

mp

mf

p

mp

mf

p

36

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

42

E

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

mp *p* *mf*

48

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

53

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

F

