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# Valle Grande: Overture for Double String Orchestra

Michael D. Mauldin

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# MICHAEL MAULDIN

## **VALLE GRANDE:**

Overture for Double String Orchestra

*Commissioned by the Eldorado High School Orchestra,  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Ruth Striegel, Director*

# VALLE GRANDE:

## Overture for Double String Orchestra

*Valle Grande: Overture for Double String Orchestra*, commissioned by the Eldorado High School Orchestra in Albuquerque NM, was premiered by the school's top two string orchestras, conducted by Ruth Striegel, May 3, 2016 at the school. It was inspired by a trip the composer, the conductor and the students made to Valles Caldera National Preserve the previous September.

When Ruth asked me to write a piece for her orchestras that was inspired by a place I loved in New Mexico, it coincided with the opening of the Valles Caldera National Preserve. Since the Jemez Mountains are my favorite place in the state, I had often admired the expansive caldera—then private land—from the highway. But getting a guided tour of it with the students that fall was a peak experience—a lovely confluence of old and new.

The wandering opening of the piece is reminiscent of the winding road we took then, and the arduous journey that the first visitors made. The “airborne” primary melody reflects the joy of experiencing the broad overview and the enchanting details of the expanse. The pensive second melody imagines the adversities—loneliness, loss of loved ones, hunger, harsh winters—that early settlers experienced there. Developments of those two melodies occupy the middle of the piece, followed by a return to the wandering introduction and celebratory ending.

Michael Mauldin  
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Duration: 4:46

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# VALLE GRANDE: Overture for Double String Orchestra

comissioned by the Eldorado High School Orchestra, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Ruth Striegel, Director

Michael Mauldin  
2015

**System 1 (Measures 1-7):**  
Violins I: *pp* (half note), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Violins II: *mp* (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Viola: *mp* (arco) (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Cello: *mp* (arco) (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Bass: *mp* (arco) (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Rehearsal mark **5** at measure 1.

**System 2 (Measures 9-13):**  
Violins I: *mp* (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Violins II: *mp* (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Viola: *pizz.* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Cello: *mf* (pizz.) (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Bass: *mf* (pizz.) (quarter notes), *mf* (quarter notes), *mp* (quarter notes).  
Rehearsal mark **9** at measure 9.

**System 3 (Measures 12-13):**  
Violins I: *mf* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes).  
Violins II: *mf* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes).  
Viola: *mf* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes).  
Cello: *mf* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes).  
Bass: *mf* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes), *f* (quarter notes).  
Rehearsal mark **13** at measure 13.

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Bass

17

*mf*

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Bass

17

*mf*

// 14 15 16 17 18 19 //

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Bass

21

25

*mp* *p* *mf* *f*

*div.*

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Bass

21

25

*mp* *f*

Vlns. I II Vla. Cello Bass

30

*mf* *sim.*

*mf* *sim.*

*mf* *sim.*

*unis.* *mf* (h) *sim.*

*pizz.* *mf*

Vlns. I II Vla. Cello Bass

30

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*pizz.* *mf*

*pizz.* *mf*

// 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 //

Vlns. I II Vla. Cello Bass

35

42

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*pizz.* *arco* *mf* *mp*

Vlns. I II Vla. Cello Bass

35

42

*mf* *sim.* *f* *mf* *mp*

*mf* *sim.* (h) *f* *mf* *mp*

*pizz.* *mf* *sim.* *f* *mf* *mp* *arco* *mp*

*pizz.* *arco* *mf* *mp*

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42

46 50

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51

54

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

52 53 54 55 56 57

54

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

52 53 54 55 56 57

58 62

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

58 62

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

58 59 60 61 62 63 64

66 70

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

66 70

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73



74 78

Vlns. I *mf* poco a poco cresc.

Vlns. II *mf* poco a poco cresc.

Vla. *p* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Cello *div.* *p* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Bass *mp* poco a poco cresc.

74 78

Vlns. I *p* *mf* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Vlns. II *p* *mf* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Vla. *p* *mf* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Cello *p* *mf* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Bass *p* *mf* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81

82 88 Slower

Vlns. I *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *con sordino* *p*

Vlns. II *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *con sordino* *p*

Vla. *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *con sordino* *p*

Cello *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *unis.* *ff* *mf* *mp*

Bass *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

82 88 Slower

Vlns. I *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

Vlns. II *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

Vla. *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

Cello *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

Bass *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90

96 *a tempo* 100  
*senza sordino*

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

96 *a tempo soli* 100

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

104

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

104

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

101 102 103 104 105 106 107

108 112

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

*mf* *(mf)* *f*

*mf* *f* *div.*

*mf* *f*

108 112

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

*(pizz.)* *f* *arco*

*(pizz.)* *f* *arco*

*(pizz.)* *arco* *f*

*mf* *f*

// 108 109 110 111 112 113 //

116

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

*rit. div.* *ff*

*rit.* *ff*

*rit.* *ff*

*rit.* *ff*

116

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Bass

*rit.* *ff*

*rit.* *ff*

*rit.* *ff*

*rit.* *ff*

# VALLE GRANDE: Overture for Double String Orchestra

comissioned by the Eldorado High School Orchestra, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Ruth Striegel, Director

Michael Mauldin

2015

♩ = 94

4/4

*pp*

5

7

9

*mp*

*mf*

13

*f*

17

*mf*

18

21

*mp*

22

25

*p*

*mp*

*mf*

*f*

27

30

*mf*

*sim.*

33

35

42

[35-41]

*mp*

*p*

46

50

*mp*

*mf*

*mp*

*mf*

52

54

*f*

Orchestra I Violin I-2

57 58 *mf* *mp*

62 66 70 74 78 *mf* *poco a poco cresc...*

80 82 *(poco a poco cresc.)*

85 *con* 88 **Slower** *2 sordino* *f* [86-87] *p* *mp*

93 96 *a tempo* 100 *senza sordino* *p* [96-99] *p*

104 *mp* *p* *mp*

108 *mf* *(mf)*

112 *f*

116 *rit.* *ff*

# VALLE GRANDE: Overture for Double String Orchestra

comissioned by the Eldorado High School Orchestra, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
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Michael Mauldin

2015

Musical score for Violin II, measures 1-54. The score is written in treble clef, 4/4 time signature, with a tempo marking of  $\text{♩} = 94$ . The piece is in the key of D major. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *p*, *sim.*, and *mf*. There are also performance instructions like *v* (vibrato) and *>* (accent). The score is divided into systems with measure numbers 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 30, 35, 42, 46, 50, and 54 marked in boxes. A section marked [35-41] is indicated as a 7-measure rest. The score ends with a double bar line at measure 54.

Orchestra I Violin II-2

58 *mf* *v* *v* *mp* [62-65] [66-69]

70 [70-73] [74-77] 78 *mf* *poco a poco cresc.*

82 (poco a poco cresc.) *f* *con sordino* [86-87] *p* **88** *Slower*

89 *mp* *p* *pp* [96-99] **96** *a tempo*

100 *senza sordino* *mp* 104

106 108 *mf*

112 *f* *v* *v*

116 *div.* *rit.* *ff*

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Michael Mauldin

2015

$\text{♩} = 94$

5

6

9

11

13

16

17

21

25

27

30

33

35

42

46

50

53

54

58

*mp* *mf* *f* *p* *sim.*



Orchestra I Viola-2

59 62 *p*

64 66 *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*

70 74 78 *p* *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*

81 82 *f* [86-87] *f*

88 **Slower**  
*con sordino*  
*p* *mp* *p* *pp*

96 *a tempo* 100 *senza sordino* 104 *mp*

105 108 *mf*

110 112 *f*

115 116 *rit.* *ff*

# VALLE GRANDE: Overture for Double String Orchestra

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Michael Mauldin

2015

$\text{♩} = 94$   
(arco)

5

6

9

13 *div.*

14

17 *unis. v*

19

21

25

30 *unis.*

31

35

38

42

45

46

50

52

54

Orchestra I Cello-2

58 *mf* *p* *sim.*

64 *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*

70 [70-73] 4 [74-76] 3 *p* *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*

81 *(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *unis.*

87 *mf* *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* **88 Slower** **96 a tempo** **100**

101 **104**

107 **108** [108-110] 3 *mf* *f* **112** *div.*

115 **116** *rit.* *ff*

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2015

♩ = 94  
(arco)

mp

6

9

[9-11]

mf

f

13

14

17

mp

20

21

p

mf

f

25

26

30

pizz.

mf

32

(pizz.)

35

39

arco

mf

mp

mf

42

46

mp

50

mf

Orchestra I Bass-2

52 *div.* [54] **3** [58] *div.*  
*mf*  
[54-56] *unis.*

61 [62] *unis.* [66]  
*p* *sim. mp* *p* *mp*

68 [70] **4** [74] **4** [78]  
*mf* *mp* *p* [70-73] [74-77] *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*

81 [82]  
*(poco a poco cresc.)* *f* *ff* *mf*

[88] **Slower** [96] *a tempo* [100]  
*mp* [89-93] *p* *pp* [96-99] *mp*

101 [104]

107 [108] **3** [112]  
[108-110] *mf* *f*

115 [116]  
*rit.* *ff*

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2015

Musical score for Orchestra II Violin I, measures 1-57. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of quarter note = 94. It features various dynamics (mp, mf, f, p, sim.), articulations (accents, slurs, breath marks), and fingerings (e.g., [1-2], [5], [9], [13], [17], [21-23], [30-34], [40-41], [46], [50], [54]).

Measures 1-57 are shown across eight staves. Measure numbers are boxed: 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 30, 35, 42, 46, 50, 54. Measure groups are indicated in brackets: [1-2], [21-23], [30-34], [40-41], [54-57].

Orchestra II Violin I-2

58 *mf* *v* *v* 62 *mp* [62-65] 4

66 [66-69] 4 70 *p* *mp* 74 *p*

76 78 *mf* *mp* 82 *poco a poco cresc.*

83 (poco a poco cresc.)----- *f* 88 *Slower* 96 *a tempo soli* *mp*

97 *mf* 100 *p* *pp* *mp*

104 108 *mf*

110 112 *f* *v* *v*

115 116 *rit.* *ff*

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2015

Musical score for Violin II, measures 1-50. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of quarter note = 94. It features various dynamics including *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *sim.*, and *p*. The score includes several measures with fingerings (e.g., [1-2], [5], [9], [13], [17], [21-23], [25], [30-34], [40-41], [42], [46], [50]) and articulation marks such as accents and slurs. Measure numbers 8, 13, 17, 18, 21, 24, 25, 29, 30, 35, 39, 42, 46, 47, and 50 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.



Orchestra II Violin II-2

53 54 58  
[54-57] *mf*

61 62 66 70  
*mp* [62-65] [66-69] *p* *mp*

74 78  
*p* *mf* *mp* poco a poco cresc.-----

82 88 Slower  
*f* [86-87] [88-94]

96 *a tempo* 100 104  
[96-99] [100-101] *mp*

107 108  
*mf*

112  
*f*

116  
*rit.* *ff*

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*Ruth Striegel, Director*

**Michael Mauldin**  
**2015**

♩ = 94

*pizz.* 5

8 9 (*pizz.*) 13 *arco* *f*

15 17 *mf* *mp*

21 25 *f*

29 30 35 *mf* *sim.* *f* *mf*

40 42 46 *mp* *mf* *mp*

48 50 *mf* *mp* *mf*

Orchestra II Viola-2

54 [54-57] *mf* 58 62 [62-65] *mp*

66 [66-69] 70 74 *p* *mp* *p*

76 78 82 *mf* *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*

84 88 *Slower* 96 *a tempo* 100 *f*

101 *pizz.* 104 *mf*

108 (pizz.) 112 *f* *arco*

115 116 *rit.* *ff*

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**2015**

$\text{♩} = 94$

*pizz.* **5**

*mf*

7 (*pizz.*) **9** **13** *arco* **2** [11-12] *f*

14 **17** *mf*

20 **21** **25** **4** *mp* *f*

28 **30** *pizz.* *mf*

34 (*pizz.*) **35**

41 **42** *arco* **46** *mp* *mf* *mp*

48 **50** *mf*

Orchestra II Cello-2

54 [54-57] *mf* 58 62 [62-65] *mp*

66 [66-69] 70 74 *p* *mp* *p*

75 78 *mf* *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*

82 88 *f* *ff* *mf* *mp* **Slower**

89 96 *a tempo* 100 *pizz.* *mf*

103 (*pizz.*) 104 108

110 112 *arco* *f*

116 *rit.* *ff*

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2015

♩ = 94

*pizz.*

*mf*

5

6 (*pizz.*)

9

12

*arco*

13

17

4

*mf* < *f*

21

4

25

*f*

30

*pizz.*

35

*mf*

37 (*pizz.*)

*arco*

42

*mf* > *mp*

44

46

*mf*

*mp*

50

*mf*

*div.*

54

3

*unis.*

*mf*

Orchestra II Bass-2

58 62 66 **4** **4** **3**/**4**

70 74 *p* *mp* *p*

77 78 82 *mf* *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*

84 88 **Slower** **6** [89-94] *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

96 *a tempo* 100 *pizz.* 104 *mf*

105 (*pizz.*) 108

111 *arco* 112 *mf* *f*

116 *rit.* *ff*