



MOTION

FOR BEGINNING STRINGS

AKUA DIXON

FOR STRING ORCHESTRA



MOTION

AKUA DIXON

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 - FULL SCORE
 - 8 - VIOLIN 1
 - 8 - VIOLIN 2
 - 5 - VIOLA
 - 5 - CELLO
 - 5 - DOUBLE BASS
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WWW.AKUADIXON.COM
AKUASMUSIC / SESAC

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Originally composed for my public school string ensemble students, *Motion* can work as a stand-alone beginning string orchestra/quintet piece or as a warm-up for an intermediate string orchestra. As a rhythmic study, *Motion* gives students the opportunity to practice rhythmic stability and off-beat syncopation accuracy. Syncopation is at the foundation of music from many different cultures. Students have the opportunity to become familiar with diverse styles of music.

A fine introduction to Jazz bowing, the notated articulations allow students to practice and feel how jazz musicians articulate eighth notes. Imitating the sound of the drum teaches a new rhythmic study for string instruments with a bow.

Motion is written in a sequential and additive style that allows students to strengthen their fingers, develop accurate intonation in first position, and practice concentration skills. Students learn about the form of a music composition through the use of repeats and first and second endings. Ensemble is also developed with the addition of rests so students can practice counting and entering in tempo.

Students should learn *Motion* at a slow tempo with the tempo increasing gradually. Teachers can introduce different bowings through this study as well. For more advanced Jazz studies, this easily memorable piece can be played by ear in other keys.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Six time Grammy Award winner Akua Dixon has been at the forefront of improvising string players since 1973 and is "one of New York's leading jazz musicians!" - NY Times. A multi laureate of the National Endowment for the Arts, she is considered "amongst the treasures of contemporary Jazz". After graduating from New York's famed High School of Performing Arts, she studied cello with Benar Heifetz at the Manhattan School of Music.

Her original compositions and arrangements for strings have been performed globally. She has worked on Broadway and concertized with the likes of Duke Ellington, Max Roach, Aretha Franklin and others.

The leader of Quartette Indigo, "Jazz's leading string quartet", "they prove that strings can swing". This ensemble performs Akua's original compositions and unique arrangements of Jazz, Spirituals, Blues, Salsa, Tango, Rags and Bebop.

Her latest album, AKUA'S DANCE, full of "excitement, style and harmonic swing" was one of the top Jazz albums of 2017. Akua won the Downbeat Critics Poll in 2018, positioning the cello as a viable instrument in Jazz. Her current project, We The People examines Life, Liberty and Justice for all through a harrowing harmonic journey.

SCORE

MOTION

for string orchestra

by Akua Dixon

Moderato (♩ = c. 100)

A

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

mf

mf

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

B

10

Vln. I

mp

Vln. II

mp

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

10

Vln. I

14

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

14

Motion

C
18

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

This system contains measures 18 through 21 of the score. It features five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The Vln. I part consists of quarter notes with stems pointing down. The Vln. II part features eighth-note patterns with stems pointing down. The Vla. part has quarter notes with stems pointing down. The Vc. part has quarter notes with stems pointing down. The D.B. part has quarter notes with stems pointing down. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present in the second measure of the Vln. II staff. A large watermark 'For Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

22

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

22

This system contains measures 22 through 25 of the score. It features five staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The Vln. I part consists of quarter notes with stems pointing down. The Vln. II part features eighth-note patterns with stems pointing down. The Vla. part has quarter notes with stems pointing down. The Vc. part has quarter notes with stems pointing down. The D.B. part has quarter notes with stems pointing down. A large watermark 'For Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.