

Symphony *of the* Mountains

Entertaining, Enriching, Educating

Youth Orchestra

Excerpts Notes- String Bass Excerpts

STRING BASS EXCERPT 1

This excerpt is from Richard Strauss' early tone poem *Don Juan*. Some of you may already be familiar with the piece. If not I suggest giving it a listen from beginning to end. Not only is it one of the great symphonic works of the late romantic period, it is also filled with difficult music and is used as an excerpt frequently for orchestral auditions on many instruments. The example we've asked you to prepare is from the first half of the work. It is conducted in 2, so each beat is a half note. The tempo indication is approximate and there are no printed bowings, so you will need to discover for yourself and with your teacher what will work best for you. The following youtube video demonstrates an excellent performance of the piece. I encourage you to use it, or any others, for reference. It has been recorded, at one point or another, by most of the world's great orchestras, so you should not have any trouble finding examples to refer to.

Recording

Berlin Philharmonic

James Levine, conductor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qE8MKEyEEnQ>

(excerpt is 5:30 – 6:12)

STRING BASS EXCERPT 2

This excerpt is from the final movement of Symphony No. 3 "Organ" by Camille Saint-Saëns. The following video may be of use in preparation, though it needn't be copied exactly. Choose bowings and a tempo that work for you and are consistent with the performance tradition of this movement. The indicated markings are just suggestions, as is this performance example.

Recording

Orchestra de Paris

Paavo Jarvi, conductor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWCZq33BrOo>

(excerpt is 26:00 – 26:20)

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String Bass Excerpts

*Choose one of the two excerpts

1 of 2

R. Strauss – Don Juan

Letter F to 3 before Letter G

$\text{♩} = 72$

2

Basso

poco più vivente
p *cresc.* *f* *p* *cresc.*

espr. *f* *mf espr.* *f*

cresc. *molto appassionato string.* *un poco più lento* *ff*

poco calando *dim.*

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2 of 2

Saint-Saens – Symphony No. 3

Letter at Letter N

6/8, ♩. = 76-80

The musical score is written in bass clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a section that is crossed out with a large 'X' and has the handwritten word '(OFF)' written above it. The second and third staves contain the main musical notation, including various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as 'sf' (sforzando) and 'Presto'. The score concludes with a double bar line and a '2' indicating a second ending.