Tango Pequeño

With Optional Piano & Shaker Parts

Bill Miller (BMI)

Instrumentation

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

String Bass

Piano (Opt.)

Shakers (Opt.)



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About the Composer



Bill Miller is a music composer, educator, and clinician from Phoenix, AZ. Originally from the Chicago area, Miller moved to Arizona in 2010 and has been a resident ever since. His primary instrument is trumpet.

Bill received his B.A. in Music Education from Grand Canyon University in 2017 and has been actively teaching music to students of all ages both in and out of the classroom.

His experiences in education have allowed him to write music that is enjoyable yet challenging for its grade level. Bill's music has been performed all over the world. Some of his notable works include his "Night Before Christmas...Gone Wrong", "To the Moon", "Sounds of Ireland", and more. Outside of the concert band/choir/orchestra realm, Bill composed the soundtracks to "Chronexia and the Eight Seals", Season 1 of the Emmy-award winning show "CON", and "Antidote 15". Most recently, his music was included in an episode of the "Cardinals Folktales" series for the Arizona Cardinals.

Notes for the Conductor

Tango Pequeño translates to "Little Tango". The idea was to write a short and relatively easy tango for young orchestra players to cut their teeth on. It has pizzicato and and bowed sections, and the repetitive grooves/rhythms should make it easier for young musicians to lock in and move together. It was inspired by Bizet's "Carmen" and Rossini's overture from the "Barber of Seville". While neither are quoted directly, Tango Pequeño brings a lot of similar flavors to the table.

The most challenging aspect of this piece would probably be the key change from D Minor to D Major at measure 21. I know key changes aren't particularly conventional for this grade level. However, while I have unshakeable faith in you and your students, I do acknowledge that it could present problems if you are short on time. For this reason, and in keeping with the spirit of this piece's name, you have my blessing to take the Coda the first time should needs must, as opposed to playing through the key change and taking the D.S back to measure 5. This off-ramp of sorts was written by design.

I included optional piano and shaker parts in the orchestration. While their presence would certainly enhance the piece's performance, their absence will not hinder it.

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