

LES FEUILLES MORTES

(AUTUMN LEAVES)

MUSIC BY JOSEPH KOSMA
ARRANGED FOR STRINGS BY CHRISTOPHER WENGER

INSTRUMENTATION

VIOLIN I - 8
VIOLIN II - 8
VIOLA - 5
'CELLO - 5
BASS - 5

About the Arranger



Christopher M. Wenger is a professional music educator and string specialist. He holds a B.A. in Music with a Concentration in Cello Performance from Messiah College, Grantham, PA. An avid composer and arranger, Mr. Wenger has written in a wide variety of styles for groups of all ages, though primarily for the high school level.

He currently resides in Pennsylvania with his wife Angela and two boys.

About the Piece

Les Feuilles Mortes, translated *Autumn Leaves* was written in 1945 and premiered in 1946 in the French film *Les Portes de la Nuit*. The original French text was written by Jacques Prévert, with original music composed by Joseph Kosma. English lyrics were written in 1947 by Johnny Mercer.

Autumn Leaves is one of the most recorded jazz standards in the repertoire, and this is a medium-swing version in E minor, to make it more playable for strings. The arrangement allows for both reading and improvisation, with chords in players' parts during extended solo sections, which are also written out. Syncopated accompaniments mainly in the inner voices and rich chordal backgrounds capture the melancholy nature of the tune.

LES FEUILLES MORTES

(AUTUMN LEAVES)

CONDUCTOR

KOSMA/WENGER

MED. SWING $\text{d}=170$

INSTRUMENTS: VIOLIN I, VIOLIN II, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

CHORDS: A MIN7, D7, G MAJ7, C MAJ7

INSTRUMENTS: VLN. I, VLN. II, VLA., VC., D.B.

CHORDS: F#M7(b5), B7, E MIN, A MIN7, D7, G MAJ7, C MAJ7, F#M7(b5)

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AUTUMN LEAVES

(A)

VLN. I

14

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

B7 E MIN m2 F#M7(^{b5}) B7 E MIN

VLN. I

21

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

A MIN7 D7 G MAJ7 C MAJ7 F#M7(^{b5}) B7 E MIN A9 D MIN7 G7

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

C MAJ7 F#M7(b5) B7 E MIN A MIN7 D7

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

G MAJ7 C MAJ7 F#M7(b5) B7 E MIN A MIN7

6

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.8.

42

D7 G MAJ7 G MAJ7 F#M7(b5) B7 E MIN

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.8.

49

F#M7(b5) B7 E MIN A MIN7 D7 G MAJ7 C MAJ7

(C)

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

Solo

$F\#M7(b5)$ 87 E MIN A9 D MIN G7 C MAJ7 F $\#M7(b5)$ 87 E MIN

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

$A\text{MIN}7$ $D7$ $G\text{MAJ7}$ $C\text{MAJ7}$ $F\#M7(b5)$

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

87 E MIN A MIN7

This section contains five staves for VLN. I, VLN. II, VLA., Vc., and D.B. The music consists of six measures. Measure 1: VLN. I plays eighth-note patterns. Measure 2: VLN. II and VLA. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 3: Vc. and D.B. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 4: VLN. I and VLN. II play eighth-note patterns. Measure 5: VLA. and Vc. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 6: D.B. plays eighth-note patterns. Measure numbers 87, chord symbols E MIN, and A MIN7 are written above the staff.

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

D7 G MAJ7 C MAJ7 F#M7(b5)

This section contains five staves for VLN. I, VLN. II, VLA., Vc., and D.B. The music consists of four measures. Measure 1: VLN. I plays eighth-note patterns. Measure 2: VLN. II and VLA. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 3: Vc. and D.B. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 4: VLN. I and VLN. II play eighth-note patterns. Measure 5: VLA. and Vc. play eighth-note patterns. Measure 6: D.B. plays eighth-note patterns. Measure numbers D7, chord symbols G MAJ7, C MAJ7, and F#M7(b5) are written above the staff.

E

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

87 E MIN F#M7(b5) 87

This musical score page features five staves for string instruments and double bass. The key signature is one sharp. The tempo is marked as 78. The section is identified by a large bracket labeled 'E' at the top center. The instrumentation includes Violin I (VLN. I), Violin II (VLN. II), Cello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Bassoon (VLA.). The bassoon part is annotated with harmonic changes: '87' followed by 'E MIN', then 'F#M7(b5)', and finally '87' again. Measure lines are present between the first two measures and between the third and fourth measures.

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

E MIN A MIN7 D7 G MAJ7

This continuation of the musical score page maintains the same five-staff layout and instrumentation. The tempo is now marked as 88. The bassoon part is annotated with harmonic changes: '88' followed by 'E MIN', then 'A MIN7', 'D7', and finally 'G MAJ7'. Measure lines are present between the first two measures and between the third and fourth measures.

10

VLN. I

88

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.8.

C MAJ7 F#M7(5)

B7 E MIN A9 D MIN7 G7

VLN. I

93

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.8.

C MAJ7 F#M7(5) B7 E MIN

VLN. I

97

2 TUTTI

E

VLN. II

2

VLA.

2

Vc.

2

D.8.

A MIN7 D7 G MAJ7 C MAJ7

Measure 97: Vln. I forte, Vln. II piano, Vla. piano, Vc. piano, D.8. piano. Measure 98: Vln. I eighth-note pattern, Vln. II eighth-note pattern, Vla. eighth-note pattern, Vc. eighth-note pattern, D.8. piano. Measure 99: Vln. I eighth-note pattern, Vln. II eighth-note pattern, Vla. eighth-note pattern, Vc. eighth-note pattern, D.8. piano. Measure 100: Vln. I eighth-note pattern, Vln. II eighth-note pattern, Vla. eighth-note pattern, Vc. eighth-note pattern, D.8. piano. Harmonic changes: A MIN7, D7, G MAJ7, C MAJ7.

VLN. I

100

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.8.

F#M7(b5)

B7

E MIN

Measure 100: Vln. I eighth-note pattern, Vln. II eighth-note pattern, Vla. eighth-note pattern, Vc. eighth-note pattern, D.8. piano. Measure 101: Vln. I eighth-note pattern, Vln. II eighth-note pattern, Vla. eighth-note pattern, Vc. eighth-note pattern, D.8. piano. Measure 102: Vln. I eighth-note pattern, Vln. II eighth-note pattern, Vla. eighth-note pattern, Vc. eighth-note pattern, D.8. piano. Measure 103: Vln. I eighth-note pattern, Vln. II eighth-note pattern, Vla. eighth-note pattern, Vc. eighth-note pattern, D.8. piano. Harmonic changes: F#M7(b5), B7, E MIN.

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

100

A MIN7 D7 G MAJ7 C MAJ7 F#M7(b5)

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

III

G

87 E MIN F#M7(b5) 87 E MIN

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.8.

117

A MIN7 D7 G MAJ7 C MAJ7 F#M7(b5)

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.8.

129

B7 E MIN A9 D MIN7 G7 C MAJ7 F#M7(b5) B7

VLN. I

128

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

E MIN

F#M7(b5)

B7

E MIN

A9

VLN. I

129

VLN. II

VLA.

Vc.

D.B.

D MIN7

G7

C MAJ7

F#M7(b5)

B7

E MIN