

Gems for Cello Ensembles

Easy Ensemble Pieces with Piano

Helen Butterworth



Produced by
Alfred Music Publishing (UK) Ltd
Burnt Mill, Elizabeth Way, Harlow
Essex, CM20 2HX
alfredUK.com

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ISBN-10: 0-7390-8777-0
ISBN-13: 978-0-7390-8777-0



Helen Butterworth was born in Derbyshire, England, and received her musical education at the Royal College of Music, London, obtaining teaching and performance degrees. She is now an ESA trained Suzuki violin teacher, oboist, pianist, composer and conductor with over 25 years experience.

Helen teaches for the London Suzuki Group and is director of the South Croydon Suzuki Group, teaching individual and group lessons each week. She is regularly invited to teach and conduct at Suzuki workshops in England, and is recognised as an expert in enrichment and group repertoire for younger players. Her group music for violins, cellos and flutes has been performed all over the world. For more information visit: www.southcroydonsuzukigroup.co.uk

Gems for Cello Ensembles - Notes on the Pieces

Tweet Tweet*

3 cellos and piano

A great favourite with birdsong (chiffchaff) imitations. Uses octave harmonics in all parts.

Doodle Dots*

3 cellos and piano

Easy song with basic finger pattern. Two verses, one legato then staccato.

Double Dazzle

2 cellos and piano

Impressive *Moto Perpetuo* style piece with a contrasting, slurred middle section. In 2 parts throughout although can be very successfully played as a solo piece without the Cello 2 part. In D minor/F major.

Russian Rumpus

4 cellos and piano

Basic finger pattern. Four different ideas in the four verses.

Swedish Shoemaker*

3 cellos and piano

Easy, lively, polka-like song in basic finger pattern.

Celtic Canon

3 cellos and piano

Dreamy and hypnotic. Played as a canon in the second half. Slurred bows and shifting in all parts. Can be played with the "Gems for Violin Ensembles" version.

Dooby Doo Doo

4 cellos and piano

A jazzy style, 4-part round with words for singing!

Lonely Lady

4 cellos and piano

Slow, haunting, minor key piece which can be easily played as a 4-part round. Long notes for *vibrato* practice. Easily memorised.

Mayo Morrins*

2 cellos and piano

Lively and Irish dance-like. Can be played as a round and fits with the "Gems for Violin Ensembles" version.

Willow Wands

3 cellos and piano

Flowing, sustained piece with chorale-like sections. Good for *vibrato* practice and shifting.

*beginner (pre-Twinkle) part included

Gems for Cello Ensembles

An anthology of tried and tested, fun enrichment repertoire for group classes, concerts, institutes and workshops. They are designed for use in either a reading-based or Suzuki context.

Players of different standards (beginner, elementary and more advanced) can combine for performances as many pieces contain graded parts and work well in different combinations. The CD includes performance and piano backing tracks.

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Tweet Tweet

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Chirpily ♩ = 74

Cello 1

Cello 2

Cello 3 (optional)

Piano

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score is in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked 'Chirpily' with a quarter note equal to 74. The dynamics are marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The Cello parts (1, 2, and 3) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Piano part features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

7

A

Musical score for measures 7-12. The score continues from the previous page. A box labeled 'A' is placed above measure 8. The dynamics are marked 'f' (forte) starting in measure 10. The Cello parts continue with their rhythmic pattern, and the Piano part continues with its melody and bass line.

13

f

f

f

19

B

mf

mf

mf