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# *Desiderata*

DOUGLAS GIBSON

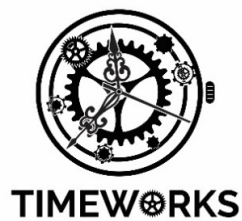
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# DESIDERATA

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## **INSTRUMENTATION**

1 - Conductor's Score
2- Solo Violin
8 - Violin I
8 - Violin II
5 - Viola
5 - Cello
5 - Bass

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

The title of this piece “Desiderata”, refers to the famous poem by Max Ehrmann. An English translation equates to “Desired Things”. Ehrmann's poem is a reflection upon the qualities that lead to inner peace, and a well lived life. Emphasis is placed on the development of timeless inner values, that will ultimately surpass momentary external gratification.

### **Additional Notes**

In beginning work on this music, I selected a passacaglia, which is a very traditional form, as the basis for the musical materials within. Orchestration wise, I was reminded of the “Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis”. I hoped to write a modern, yet timeless quality in the overall effect.

Similar to a Vaughn Williams piece, I divide out the string orchestra to have the first chairs become soloist. (*The only exception being the Violin 1 in which the first desk is used in this capacity*)

Having a string quintet within a string orchestra creates a beautiful texture. Additionally, I felt it added to the programmatic sense of the piece. The soloist being the individuals, staying true to the passacaglia, vs the weight of the world (*string orchestra*).

- Doug Gibson

## About the Composer

**Douglas Gibson** (ASCAP) is a professional composer, and orchestrator, who maintains an active working schedule on numerous projects. His work includes orchestrations for major feature films such as "Wonder" (Starring Julia Roberts and Owen Wilson), "Our Kind of Traitor", "The Choice", and television on the Showtime series "The Affair".

His film orchestrations most notably been performed by the London Symphony, Prague Symphony, and the Bavarian Philharmonic. His Compositional work has included premiers at major venues such as Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully (Lincoln Center), and Symphony Space.

Mr. Gibson's original orchestral music has also been performed with The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Kiev Philharmonic, Orchestra Victoria, and by members of the New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Orchestra and Phoenix Symphonies.

# Desiderata

Dur: 2' 45"

Composed by  
DOUGLAS GIBSON

Violin I (first desk 1,2)

Violin II (Solo)

Viola (1st desk)

Violoncello (Solo)

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

$\text{♩} = 78$

*con sord.*

*pp*

*con sord.*

*pp*

1 2 3 4

Vln. I Solo

Vln. II Solo

Va. Solo

Vc. (Solo)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*con sord.*

*p*

*con sord.*

*p*

*mp*

*niente*

*p*

*p*

5 6 7 8

## Desiderata (String Orchestra)

Score for String Orchestra, measures 2 through 5. The score includes parts for Violin I Solo, Violin II Solo, Viola Solo, Violoncello (Solo), Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass.

Measures 2-5 show the following dynamics and markings:

- Violin I Solo: *mp*, *p*, *espress.*
- Violin II Solo: *sim.*, *p*
- Viola Solo: *mp*, *p*
- Violoncello (Solo): *p sempre*
- Violin II (ensemble): *con sord.*, *p*
- Viola (ensemble): *mp*, *p*

Score for String Orchestra, measures 9 through 16. The score includes parts for Violin I Solo, Violin II Solo, Viola Solo, Violoncello (Solo), Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass.

Measures 9-16 show the following dynamics and markings:

- Violin I Solo: *p*, *mp*, *p*
- Violin II Solo: *p*, *mp*, *niente*
- Viola Solo: *p*, *mp*
- Violoncello (Solo): *p*
- Violin I (ensemble): *con sord.*, *p*
- Violin II (ensemble): *mp*
- Viola (ensemble): *p*, *mp*

# Desiderata (String Orchestra)

Score for String Orchestra, measures 17-20. The score is written for Violin I Solo, Violin II Solo, Viola Solo, Violoncello (Solo), Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and the dynamics are *espress.* (espressivo) and *legato espress.* (legato espressivo). The time signature is 4/4.

Measures 17-20. The score is written for Violin I Solo, Violin II Solo, Viola Solo, Violoncello (Solo), Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and the dynamics are *espress.* (espressivo) and *legato espress.* (legato espressivo). The time signature is 4/4.

Score for String Orchestra, measures 21-24. The score is written for Violin I Solo, Violin II Solo, Viola Solo, Violoncello (Solo), Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and the dynamics are *espress.* (espressivo) and *legato espress.* (legato espressivo). The time signature is 4/4.

Measures 21-24. The score is written for Violin I Solo, Violin II Solo, Viola Solo, Violoncello (Solo), Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and the dynamics are *espress.* (espressivo) and *legato espress.* (legato espressivo). The time signature is 4/4.



4

Vln. I Solo

Vln. II Solo

Va. Solo

Vc. (Solo)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*mp*

*niente*

*espress.*

*mf*

*sim.*

*mf*

25 26 27 28

Vln. I Solo

Vln. II Solo

Va. Solo

Vc. (Solo)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*f*

*p*

*mp*

*niente*

*p*

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

*mp*

29 30 31 32

Desiderata (String Orchestra)

Score for String Orchestra, measures 31-36. The score includes parts for Violin I (Solo), Violin II (Solo), Viola (Solo), Violoncello (Solo), and Contrabass. Dynamics range from *pp* to *ff*. Performance markings include *in rilievo*, *espress.*, and *con sord.*. Time signatures are 4/4, 3/4, and 5/4.

Score for String Orchestra, measures 37-40. The score includes parts for Violin I (Solo), Violin II (Solo), Viola (Solo), Violoncello (Solo), and Contrabass. Dynamics range from *pp* to *ff*. Performance markings include *div.* and *niente*. Time signatures are 4/4, 3/4, and 5/4.

6

Desiderata (String Orchestra)

Vln. I Solo

*niente*

Vln. II Solo

*mp*

*in rilievo*

*niente*

Va. Solo

*mf*

*espress.*

*niente*

Vc. (Solo)

*niente*

Vln. I

*niente*

Vln. II

*p*

*niente*

Vla.

*p*

*pp*

*niente*

Vc.

*pp*

Cb.

ONLY

44

45 46 47 48

Desiderata (String Orchestra)

7

Vln. I Solo

Vln. II Solo

Va. Solo

Vc. (Solo)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*mp*

*espress.*

*rit.*

*ppp*

*da lontano*

*pp*

*pizz*

*p*

*niente*

*niente*

49 50 51 52

53 54 55

Vln. I Solo

Vln. II Solo

Va. Solo

Vc. (Solo)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*pp*

*al niente*

*pp*

*al niente*

*disparendo*

*pp*

*al niente*

*pp*

*al niente*

*pp*

*al niente*

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