GTCYS CO Pre Concert Worklist 11/03/2026

SCHERZO FANTASY

FOCUS POINTS FOR ALL

- Looking up and watching the conductor
- Keeping the pulse steady- ESPECIALLY try to sit back on 8th notes.
- Memorize transitions and be ready to watch and adjust your sound when the tempo changes.
- Play with courage and make sure each musical gesture is VIVID.

STRINGS

- Opening to rehearsal A: Notice note lengths- especially on held notes. Many of you are holding on too long and sustaining the sound beyond what is written.
- 2 before rehearsal A- more energy on the start of each slur (accent!)
- Rehearsal C- this spot really rushed last night. Please hold a steady tempo amidst all of these string changes!
- Rehearsal I: Please watch me and respond to my tempo and gestures. We were too slow here last night
- 4 before rehearsal M: EVERYONE needs to have a performance mute on their instrument for this section. This is really important for color and balance. Please have one next week, and listen to a recording to help you place your entrance.
- Rehearsal M: Recall our hard work on color and getting a good, artistic crescendo and diminuendo each three bar chunk.
- Violin I players- make sure you have thoughtful fingerings for this section. The pick up to rehearsal M should be on one string. Please also be ready to lead the sound throughout- you need to grab onto the pulse before anyone else and lead your colleagues with your phrasing, rhythm, and color.
- Cello/Viola players- Please keep working on the 3rd bar of N, and practice using a SLOW downbow. Crescendo with weight and start the pickup to the 3rd bar of N in the middle of your bow.
- 4th bar of O: All players keep working to center your pitch. The effect of us all playing this section with a balanced, centered pitch will be extraordinary!
- Rehearsal O: Basses- this is your chance to join in on the fun and make a big, warm crescendo with bow weight, using a super slow down bow.
- Rehearsal R: Let's be marcato and rhythmic right away.
- Rehearsal T: Tons of energy on the pickup note for violins. Everyone else needs to count and have a strong entrance on the downbeat.
- W to the end: Please keep working to master the 16th note "rush" up through the ending of this piece. Try to use more bow here too- it's easy for our right hand to slow down and tense up when our left hand fingers are moving so fast. You will NEVER forget the feeling of sticking a tricky ending like this one in performance!

PERCUSSION

- Let's be careful about balance- snare drum and timpani especially need to drop and Fp during long notes.
- Rehearsal P: Suspended cymbal can be slightly louder here to start
- Rehearsal Q: Everyone please practice your parts with a metronome at quarter note= 138 this week. Make sure each dynamic change is VIVID. This is especially challenging to timpani- but you are capable of making these rapid dynamic changes! We will rehearse this section with a metronome first thing next week- and I expect that each of you will be able to play with confidence and artistry while listening to a click.
- U: Please memorize these four measures and be ready to watch me. Also try to work on a more smooth crescendo- all the way up to Fortissimo! You can practice at the following tempo: dotted quarter note= 92 BPM.

BRASS

- As always, remember to drop dynamic on long notes throughout the beginning. Horns, we could use more sound and articulation in measures 2 and 4. Sometimes you play with the strings, and other times with the rest of the brass section, so be sure to read your page carefully.
- Rehearsal F: Let's return to do some pitch work on this section of the piece- especially two measures before rehearsal G.
- Horns: We're still having trouble entering correctly in the 3rd measure of rehearsal F- it's usually late by 1 8th note. the 5/8 measures should be counted "1 2, 1 2 3", or slash triangle. You can set a metronome at 276 BPM for the 8th note pulse, and practice speaking your part and counting the 5/8 measures. You'll also want to breathe and have your instrument near your embouchure during the 5/8 measures. Finally, I'll work on being incredibly clear with my conducting so you know exactly when to play. Watching me will help line this section up.
- Rehearsal L: Much improved all! Keep working to follow every dynamic marking. Thank you for watching me and being sensitive to the phrasing in this section.
- Tuba, please keep working to find your pitches with confidence at rehearsal L. This is a tricky section and the rest of your section will rely on you to have a clear, centered approach to pitch.
- Rehearsal P: Trumpets, please remember to mute here. We will need you to make more sound at orchestra hall and articulate the beginnings of your notes with greater clarity.
- Horns Rehearsal S: Please articulate your staccato notes with greater clarity and play them shorter.
- Horns/ Tuba/ and trombone at rehearsal T: Please be prepared to work together on Monday and at Orchestra Hall to find a good, tight sense of rhythm. You can lock in to the cello/bass sound, and the percussion to help you out. Best will be watching me at orchestra hall.
- Tpt/Trombone: make sure to "fill up" with aire before you "ben marcato" 16th notes. They tend to be a bit behind. Keep working on that double tongue technique! The more

confident you are with this technique, and the more air you use, the better the effect will read in orchestra hall.
- Rehearsal V: Horn, trombone and tuba: please work on making more sound here, articulating the start of the slur, and playing super staccato 8th notes. Tuba especially needs to play Marcatissio here!

WOODWINDS
- 5 before rehearsal A: Please make sound and articulate the pickup note here (and all pickups of this sort here after- for ever and ever and all time- so be it!). Please make sure to count through long notes here and check in with me (visually speaking) so that each pickup is energized and together.
- Bassoon and Piccolo Rehearsal C: I'm going to work with the strings to make sure they keep a steady tempo here. Please be ready to energize the pickup note and follow my conducting.
- Rehearsal D: Make sure to energize and clearly articulate the two 8th note pickups each of you have in the 6/8 bars.
- 2 before rehearsal H: we still have some rhythmic fumbling here. Carefully counting please….
- Rehearsal H: Three things for all!
    1. Please do some slow work and double check your notes- ESPECIALLY accidentals! There is some funky writing here.
    2. Practice with a metronome at quarter note= 138. The 8th notes will rush- so please practice "sitting back" in the rhythmic pocket.
    3. Practice making VIVID dynamics jump off the page. There is some tricky stuff here to be sure, but if everyone follows what they have on the page.
- As you are doing careful metronome practice at rehearsal H, please watch me and be prepared to ritardando 1 before rehearsal I….
- Rehearsal L: Clarinet 2 and Flute can be louder on beat 2 and all like places.
- 9 before rehearsal M- clarinet 1 and Flute: please don't look down while playing this measure. The tempo will slow down here slightly (as indicated by the "andante" marking in your music)- you need to be brave, memorize this measure, and connect with me.
- Rehearsal S: as before, energize the three note pickup gesture.
- 1 before B: Flutes be ready to lead by "bouncing" off the timpani note here. You can take a breath before playing and cut out the long note early if it helps you place the pickup to V in time.
- Rehearsal V: All woodwinds need to make more sound and move air through the slurs here. Perfect pulse too!

FARANDOLE

- Strings, there are many times where you will need to "lift" your bow and re-set lower near the frog. Please observe each of these moments.
- 1 measure before the 2/4, all who play please be ready to watch me as these quarter notes MAY ritardando slightly
- Allegro Vivo: Snare drum please try not to rush and accent the downbeats slightly.

- Rehearsal B: First violins, make sure the grace note is super short and attached to the main note.
- 9th bar of rehearsal H: Strings and BASSOON can have more fun with any slurs here- especially chromatic ones. MAke a big sound on slurred measures.
- Rehearsal I: Tuba, please continue to work on centering your pitch and having a very in tune D throughout this section. You can play it up the octave if you wish to help with pitch. There is no need to over blow. The tendency right now is for this note to run sharp. Please see me if you have questions about this section.
- Rehearsal M: ALL- please work on not slowing down here. Winds and brass should be MOLTO staccato here.