

Air by Handel

From the Water Music Suite



ViolinSchool
MusicLand

www.ViolinSchool.com

George Frederic Handel wrote this to be played for King George I on July 17 1771, for a concert on the river Thames in London.

Allegro

The musical score is written for violin in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). The first line starts with a 'V' above the first note and a dynamic marking of *f* (*p* 2nd time) below the first note. The second line starts with a 'V' above the first note and a dynamic marking of *f* (*mf* 2nd time) below the first note. The third line starts with a '9' above the first note and a dynamic marking of *ff* below the first note. The third line also includes a 'rit. (2nd time)' marking above the first note and a 'cresc.' marking at the end of the line.

Activities

- 1) **Practise** the up-beat up bows at the beginning of the piece, and at the beginning of the second section (line 2). How much bow should you use for these notes? And where in the bow should you start the stroke?
- 2) **Play** the hooked bowing pattern in bar 11. Should you use one gesture or two when playing these notes? How can you make the F# start at a fortissimo dynamic, even though it is on an up bow?
- 3) **Contrast** the dynamics as much as possible. Practice by exaggerating the dynamic changes as much as you can. How big can you make the differences?

