

Chanson Triste

A Sad Song by Tchaikovsky



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Here is the first part of a beautiful piece by the Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Experiment with your bow to find a sad, expressive sound!

Expressively

p molto espressivo

6

11

mf

16

p

Tchaikovsky wrote music during the 'Romantic era' of music, in the 19th century. Music written during this period was often more dramatic and emotional than the music that came before it. It needs to be played in a very expressive way.

Activities

- 1) **Practise** the bars with linked bowing (1, 3, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17). Use the whole bow, but keep it light and add a gentle emphasis to each note.
- 2) **Pace** your bow speed carefully in bars 18 and 19, so that you don't run out of bow or allow the sound to become too thin.
- 3) **Add vibrato**, especially to the minims and semibreves, to provide interest and musical 'colour' to the sound during the longer notes.