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A LOVE OF THE AGES

(WEDDING SONG)

"A Love of the Ages" is a wedding piece that is ideally played as the bride and wedding party walk down the aisle. Inspired by images of majestic castle halls and medieval ceremonies this piece seeks to capture both the grace and power of timeless love.

Set in 3/4 time, this piece requires that the guitarist strike the strings with the strumming hand close to the fret board in order to achieve a harp-like tone. A moderately slow song, each note is to be sustained unless otherwise indicated.

"A Love of the Ages" requires that the guitarist be mindful of the use of open strings even while in the upper positions of the guitar. For instance, in measure 80 beat 2, there is a B note that is to be played using the open second string, which resonates with the D and F# notes on beat 3.

There are also notes that are repeated but are actually sounded on different strings. For instance, in measure 16 beat 3, there is a B note (the lowest note in the chord) that is to be played on the fourth string and immediately after this chord, in measure 17 beat 1, the B note is played on the open second string. Repeating notes on different strings and in different positions is a useful way to hear the different textures a single note can possess.





A LOVE OF THE AGES

(WEDDING SONG)



* Play notes close to the fretboard for a harp-like effect
Let notes sustain throughout the piece unless otherwise indicated





CANDLE LANTERNS

"Candle Lanterns" is a celebratory piece. This song is inspired by hundreds of candle lanterns soaring into the night sky on the banks of the Mekong River in Thailand.

The technique required to perform this piece is artificial harmonics. There must always be a twelve-fret difference between the artificial harmonic and the fingered note. For instance, in the opening measure all of the notes will be fingered at the fifth fret. The artificial harmonics will be sounded at the seventeenth fret.

In order to sound the artificial harmonics, the first finger in the strumming hand *i* must rest over the fret bar while the thumb *p* strikes the string. The third finger in the strumming hand *a* is responsible for strumming the regular sounding notes.

Notice that in measure 62 beat 3, artificial harmonics and regular notes are sounded simultaneously. This technique requires that the first finger *i* and thumb *p* sound the artificial harmonic while the third finger *a* sounds the regular note at the same time.

"Candle Lanterns" also uses percussive hits. The percussive hits occur in measures 24, 52 and 88. Using the face of the strumming hand fingers *ima* tap the body of the guitar underneath the strings (the lower percussive zone) for the eighth note on the "and" of beat 3 and on beat 4. Use the thumb *p* to tap the body of the guitar above the strings (the middle percussive zone) on the "and" of beat 4.

The final two chords of the piece in measure 96 on beats 3 and 4 are sounded entirely as artificial harmonic chords. In order to sound the Am7sus4 chord using artificial harmonics on beat 3, the first finger of the strumming hand i must move across all six strings at the seventeenth fret while the third finger a performs a downstroke. On beat 4, the a finger must perform an upstroke while the i finger moves across all six strings in order to sound the Am7sus4 chord.





CANDLE LANTERNS

Allegro JEFFREY GUNN





