Harmony Music No.6 (Shed)

music by **EDWARD ELGAR**

written in May 1879

for

2 Flutes, Oboe, Clarinet and Bassoon or Cello

- 1. Allegro molto.
- 2. Andante arioso.

Transcribed by John Morrison in September 2020. Revised November 2020.

All Elgar's wind quintets show that the parts were considerate of the abilities of the players. The oboe (Edward's brother, Frank) has most of the melodies: he and the bassoon/cello (Edward himself) are clearly very capable. Confidence is also shown in the high notes of the first flute (Hubert Leicester). The part of the second flute (Frank Exton) is simple, uncharacteristically low and occasionally trusted with its own melodies. The clarinet (William Leicester) is generally kept to its low register and is allowed to double melodies.

The bassoon/cello part has some chords. Easily played across cello strings, here the bassoon should of course play the lowest note of the chord (or its octave), with the exception of the *Allegro* bars 75-76 where, to provide the intended harmony, the bassoon should play the higher notes.

The original part for clarinet in C has here been transposed for clarinet in B-flat.

Elgar arranged the *Andante arioso* for organ as an *Adagio Solenne*. In 1912 he extended and arranged it for small orchestra as *Cantique*, op.3.

I would like to acknowledge the initiative of the late Stanley Murthwaite, who sent me a score assembled from the original part-books, which were first kept by William Leicester. I am grateful to Lisa Portus for her kind criticism.

References: Moore, Jerrold N. (1984). Edward Elgar: a Creative Life. Oxford University Press.

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