

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

# Rhosymedre

Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Orchestrated by  
**ARNOLD FOSTER**

Complete Set	Catalog No. 1.5072
Augmenting Strings	Catalog No. 1.5073
Full Score	Catalog No. 1.5074 ◀
Single Part	Catalog No. 1.5075

# Rhosymedre

## PROGRAM NOTE

In 1920 Ralph Vaughan Williams composed *Three Preludes on Welsh Hymn Tunes* for organ, which quickly became established as standard repertoire for the instrument. Of the three, *Rhosymedre*, (sometimes known as "Lovely"), has become the most popular. This hymn tune was written by the 19th-century Welsh composer, J. D. Edwards. It is a simple melody. Yet, around this modest tune, Vaughan Williams constructed a piece of grand proportions.

The hymn tune, in long note values, is surrounded by a moving bass line and a treble obbligato in faster notes, often characterized by descending sixths. Vaughan Williams has joined together hymn tune, bass, and obbligato, creating an exceedingly fresh and appealing tonal language. This seems all the more remarkable when one realizes that there is scarcely an accidental in the entire score.

Arnold Foster, English composer/conductor and a pupil of Vaughan Williams, orchestrated *Rhosymedre* so that the rise of the long line of the hymn tune is enhanced by an increasing number of instruments.

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

### Instrumentation:

2 Flutes, 1 Oboe, 2 B-flat Clarinets, 2 Bassoons, 2 Horns, 1 B-flat Trumpet, Strings

A complete set (No. 1.5072) consists of: 1 Full Score, 3 Flute parts, 1 Oboe part, 3 Clarinet parts, 2 Bassoon parts, 3 Horn parts, 2 B-flat Trumpet parts and Strings 5-5-3-3-3. Augmenting strings are also available.

This arrangement may also be performed by: (a) strings alone, or (b) flute, strings and any other of the above wind instruments available. A pianist may play from the original organ solo score (No. 1.5087) to substitute for missing strings.

*Rhosymedre* is also available in an arrangement for band by Walter Beeler.

Duration: 4 Minutes

**GALAXY MUSIC CORPORATION**



Full Score

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## Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Melody by  
J. D. Edwards (1805-1885)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)  
Orchestrated by Arnold Foster

**Andantino**

2 FLUTES  
*P espressivo e cantabile*

1 OBOE  
*P espressivo e cantabile*

2 CLARINETS  
in Bb  
*P espressivo e cantabile*

2 BASSOONS  
*P espressivo e cantabile*

2 HORNS  
in F

1 TRUMPET  
in C  
(part is in B-flat)

**Andantino**

1st VIOLIN  
*P espressivo e cantabile*

2nd VIOLIN  
*P espressivo e cantabile*

VIOLA  
*P espressivo e cantabile*

VIOLONCELLO  
*P*

BASS  
*P*

1 2 3 4

Detailed description: This page contains the first system of a full orchestral score for 'Rhosymedre'. It features staves for woodwinds (Flutes, Oboe, Clarinets in Bb, Bassoons), brass (Horns in F, Trumpet in C), and strings (Violins, Viola, Violoncello, Bass). The tempo is marked 'Andantino' and the dynamics are 'P espressivo e cantabile'. The score shows the first four measures of the piece, with a first ending bracketed over measures 1-4.

Flts. A

Ob.

Clars. Hns. a.2. *cantabile*

Bsns. *p*

Hns. a.2. *p cantabile*

Trpt.

1st Vln. A, v

2nd Vln. DIV. UNIS.

Vla. DIV. UNIS. *p cantabile*

Cello PIZZ. *p*

Bass PIZZ. *p*

5 6 7 8 9



Flts.

Ob.

Clarr.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpt.

1st Vln.

2nd Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Bass

DIV. UNIS.

ARCO

10 11 12 13 14

**B**

Flts.

Ob.

Clars.

Bsns.

*mp cantabile*

Hns.

Tpt.

*mp cantabile*

**B**

1st Vln.

2nd Vln.

Vla.

Cello

Bass

*mp cantabile*

DIV.

*mp cantabile*

*mp cantabile*

*mp cantabile*

15 16 17 18 19



Flts. *mf* *à.2.*

Ob. *mf*

Clars. *mf*

Bsns. *mp* *mf*

*cresc.*

Hns. *cresc.*

Tpt. *p*

1st Vln. *cresc.* *mf* *DIV.*

2nd Vln. *cresc.* *mf* *DIV. V*

Vla. *cresc.* *mf* *DIV. UNIS.*

Cello *cresc.* *mf*

Bass *cresc.* *mf* *ARCO V*

20 21 22 23 24

**C**

Flts. *cantabile e dolce*

Ob. *cantabile e dolce*

Clars. *cantabile e dolce*

Bsns. *cantabile e dolce*

Hns.

Tpt. *cantabile e dolce*

**C**

1st Vln. *cantabile e dolce*

2nd Vln. *cantabile e dolce*

Vla. *cantabile e dolce*

Cello *cantabile e dolce*

Bass *cantabile e dolce*

25 26 27 28



This musical score page contains measures 29 through 32 for an orchestra. The instruments are arranged in the following order from top to bottom: Flutes (Flts.), Oboes (Ob.), Clarinets (Clars.), Bassoons (Bsns.), Horns (Hns.), Trumpets (Tpt.), 1st Violins (1st Vln.), 2nd Violins (2nd Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello (Cello), and Bass. The score is written in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 30, with the word "DIV." written above it. The page number "7" is located in the top right corner. Measure numbers 29, 30, 31, and 32 are printed at the bottom of the page.

Flts.

Ob.

Clars.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpt.

1st Vln.

2nd Vln.

Vla.

'Cello

Bass

à.2.

DIV.

UNIS.

V

33 34 35 36



This page of a musical score features ten staves for various instruments. The top four staves are for woodwinds: Flutes (Fls.), Oboes (Ob.), Clarinets (Clars.), and Bassoons (Bsns.). The next two staves are for brass: Horns (Hns.) and Trumpets (Tpt.). The bottom four staves are for strings: 1st Violin (1st Vln.), 2nd Violin (2nd Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello/Bass (Cello/Bass). The Cello and Bass parts are marked 'UNIS.' (unison). The score is divided into four measures, numbered 37, 38, 39, and 40 at the bottom. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). The woodwinds and strings play melodic lines, while the brass provides harmonic support. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

Flts. *dim.* *mp*

Ob. *mf* *dim.* *mp*

Clars. *mp* *dim.* *p*

Bsns. *dim.* *mp* *dim.*

Hns. *a.2.* *mp* *dim.*

Tpt.

1st Vln. *dim.* *mp* UNIS.

2nd Vln. *dim.* *mp* UNIS.

Vla. *dim.* *mp* V

'Cello *dim.* *mp*

Bass *dim.* *mp*

42 43 44



**D**

Musical score for woodwinds and brass instruments. The instruments listed are Flts., Ob., Clars., Bsns., Hns., and Tpt. The score consists of six staves. The Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, and Trumpet parts are mostly silent, indicated by rests. The Bassoon and Horn parts have a few notes in the first measure, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

**D**

Musical score for string instruments. The instruments listed are 1st Vln., 2nd Vln., Vla., 'Cello, and Bass. The Violin, Viola, and Cello parts feature melodic lines with a *p* *espressivo* dynamic. The Bass part has a few notes in the first measure, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Handwritten measure numbers 45, 46, 47, and 48 are visible at the bottom of the page.

45

46

47

48

Flts.

Ob.

Clars.

Bsns.

rall.

Hns.

Tpt.

1st Vln.

2nd Vln.

Vla.

Cello.

Bass

rall.

UNIS.

DIV.

49 50 51 52 53



# Violin I

## Rhosymedre

### Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Melody by  
J. D. Edwards (1805-1885)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)  
Orchestrated by Arnold Foster

The musical score is written for Violin I in G major, 4/2 time, and is marked *Andantino*. It begins with a *p* dynamic and the instruction *espressivo e cantabile*. The score consists of nine staves of music. The first staff includes a *V* (Violin) marking. The second staff continues the melodic line. The third staff features a circled letter **A** and a *V* marking. The fourth staff continues the melody. The fifth staff includes a circled letter **B** and a *V* marking, with the instruction *mp cantabile* below it. The sixth staff continues the melody. The seventh staff includes the instruction *cresc.* (crescendo). The eighth staff continues the melody. The ninth staff is a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and includes a circled letter **C**, a *mf* dynamic, and the instruction *cantabile e dolce.*

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First system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with a dotted quarter note followed by eighth notes, and a dynamic marking of *f*. The lower staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with quarter and eighth notes.

Second system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The upper staff continues the melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f*. The lower staff continues the accompaniment.

Third system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f*. The lower staff features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *dim.*

Fourth system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mp*. The lower staff features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mp*.

Fifth system of musical notation, consisting of a single staff. It begins with a circled **D** and a *V* marking, followed by a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *p* and the instruction *espressivo*.

Sixth system of musical notation, consisting of a single staff. It features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *pp*.

Seventh system of musical notation, consisting of a single staff. It features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *pp* and the instruction *rall.*



Violin II

# Rhosymedre

## Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Melody by  
J. D. Edwards (1805-1885)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)  
Orchestrated by Arnold Foster

**Andantino** *p* *espressivo e cantabile*

*div.* **(A)** *unis*

*div.* *unis*

*div.* **(B)** *unis.* *mp cantabile*

**(C)** *mf*





Viola

# Rhosymedre

## Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Melody by  
J. D. Edwards (1805-1885)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)  
Orchestrated by Arnold Foster

**Andantino** *V*  
*p espressivo e cantabile*

*div.*

**(A)**  
*p cantabile*

**(B)**  
*mp cantabile* *cresc.*

*div.* **(C)** *unis.*  
*mf cantabile e dolce*

*V*

*dim.* *mp*

**(D)** *V*  
*p espressivo*

*div.* *unis.* *rall.*  
*pp*

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Viola

# Rhosymedre

## Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Melody by  
J. D. Edwards (1805-1885)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)  
Orchestrated by Arnold Foster

**Andantino** *p espressivo e cantabile*

**(A)** *p cantabile*

**(B)** *mp cantabile* *cresc.*

*div.* *unis.* **(C)** *mf cantabile e dolce*

*dim.* *mp*

**(D)** *p espressivo*

*div.* *unis.* *rall.* *pp*

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Cello

# Rhosymedre

## Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Melody by  
J. D. Edwards (1805-1885)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)  
Orchestrated by Arnold Foster

**Andantino**

*p*

*pizz.* (A)

*arco*

(B) *mp cantabile* *cresc.*

(C) *mf cantabile e dolce*

*unis.* *dim.*

(D) *mp* *p* *rall.* *pp*

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Bass

# Rhosymedre

## Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune

Melody by  
J. D. Edwards (1805-1885)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1873-1958)  
Orchestrated by Arnold Foster

**Andantino**

The musical score for the Bass part of 'Rhosymedre' is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of 11 staves of music. The score begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano). The first staff includes a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking and a circled letter 'A'. The second staff features a circled letter 'B' and a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano). The third staff has a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking and ends with an *arco* (arco) marking and a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The fourth staff is marked with a circled letter 'C' and the instruction *cantabile e dolce*. The fifth staff includes a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking and a dynamic marking of *mp*. The sixth staff is marked with a circled letter 'D' and a dynamic marking of *p*. The seventh staff concludes with a *rall.* (rallentando) marking and a dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo).

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