

# National Anthems Online

## CANADA: O Canada

National Day: 1st July

Before 1980, the official national anthem of Canada was *God Save the Queen* but *O Canada* has long been a popular national song, especially among the French-Canadian population. It was adopted as Canada's national anthem in 1980. Calixa Lavallée was a native of Quebec who was a successful concert pianist and music teacher. He became director of the Grand Opera House in New York in 1874 but eventually retired to Boston. The music was composed in 1880 and was originally a hymn of honour to St. John the Baptist.

Until the *forte* passage at measure 17, the performance should reflect the peaceful character of the words. If there are sufficient other instruments to cover all six parts, trumpets may be omitted from the *anacrusis* before measure 9 until measure 16.

Calixa Lavallée (1842-1891)  
Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

♩ = 100

Part 1 *mf*

Part 2 *mf*

Part 3 *mf*

Part 4 *mf*

Part 5 *mf*

Part 6 *mf*

Timpani

Cymbals *mf*  
In Eb, Bb.

Snare drum *mf*

Bass drum *mf*

You may download the score and the instrumental parts free of charge, making as many copies as you need. However, these may not be subsequently sold. Feedback from users is always welcomed. If you would like to report any mistakes in the music, make comments or suggestions (in English) please contact Colin Kirkpatrick at [doctorcolin@csloxinfo.com](mailto:doctorcolin@csloxinfo.com).

If you perform, record or broadcast this arrangement, please notify the Performing Rights Society (in the UK) or the equivalent performance rights organisation in your own country (e.g. [ASCAP](#) in the USA; [SOCAN](#) in Canada), listing the name of the anthem and the arranger.

1

2

3

4

5

6

Timp.

Cym.

S.D.

Bass drum

1

2

3

4

5

6

Timp.

Cym.

S.D.

Bass drum

1 *f*

2 *f*

3 *f*

4 *f*

5 *f*

6 *f*

Timp. *f*

Cym. *f*

S.D. *f*

Bass drum *f*

1 *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

2 *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

3 *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

4 *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

5 *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

6 *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

Timp. *mf* *cresc.* *f*

Cym. *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

S.D. *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

Bass drum *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

-3-

