

National Anthems Online

EUROPE: The European Anthem

This anthem is taken from the last movement of Beethoven's Symphony No 9, Op 125, often known as the *Choral Symphony*. The melody is a setting of Schiller's poem *Ode to Joy*. Beethoven began work on the symphony in 1818 and completed it in 1824. It was first performed to a packed house in Vienna in May of that year, conducted by the composer himself. Today, the symphony is considered as one of the great icons of Western music and was the first symphony by a major composer to give the human voice the same importance as the instruments of the orchestra. The theme was adopted as the European Anthem by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in January 1972. Many elaborate arrangements have been made of this melody, including one by the conductor Herbert von Karajan.

In symphonic band use, trumpets and trombones may be omitted from the first eight measures if the woodwind section is large enough.

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1828)

Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

♩ = 92

Part 1 *p legato* *mp*

Part 2 *p legato* *mp*

Part 3 *p legato* *mp*

Part 4 *p legato* *mp*

Part 5 *p legato* *mp*

Part 6 *p legato* *mp*

Timpani *In F, Bb and C.*

Cymbals

Snare drum

Bass drum

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.

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.

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1 *mf* *cresc.*

2 *mf* *cresc.*

3 *mf* *cresc.*

4 *mf* *cresc.*

5 *mf* *cresc.*

6 *mf* *cresc.*

Timps *mf*

Cym.

S.D. *mf* *cresc.*

Bass drum *mf* *cresc.*

1 *f*

2 *f*

3 *f*

4 *f*

5 *f*

6 *f*

Timps *f*

Cym. *f*

S.D. *f*

Bass drum *f*

1 *f marcato* tpts play lower part *ff*

2 *f marcato* *ff*

3 *f marcato* *ff*

4 *f marcato* *ff*

5 *f marcato* *ff*

6 *f marcato* *ff*

Timps *f marcato* *ff*

Cym. *f* *ff*

S.D. *f* *ff*

Bass drum *f* *ff*

1 *rit.*

2 *rit.*

3 *rit.*

4 *rit.*

5 *rit.*

6 *rit.*

Timps *rit.*

Cym. *rit.*

S.D. *rit.*

Bass drum *rit.*