

National Anthems Online

SWITZERLAND: Schweizer Psalm

National Day: 1 August (Anniversary of the Foundation of Confederation, 1291)

The music of the *Swiss Psalm* was composed by Father Alberik Zwissig who, in 1841 adapted it to words by the Swiss poet, writer and publisher Leonhard Widmer. The setting became popular in local cantons and there were evidently several attempts to have the psalm declared the Swiss national anthem. However, Switzerland already had a national anthem which shared the tune with that of Great Britain and it was not until 1961 that the Swiss government declared *Schweizer Psalm* the provisional anthem. The piece had to wait another twenty years - until 1981- for it to become the official national anthem.

This anthem should be given a restrained performance with percussion kept as discreet as possible. If there is a full woodwind section, trumpets and trombones may be omitted from measures 9 - 16.

Father A. Zwysig (1808 - 1854)

Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

♩ = 56

Part 1

Part 2

Part 3

Part 4

Part 5

Part 6

Timpani

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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5

1 *mf*

2 *mf*

3 *mf*

4 *mf*

5 *mf*

6 *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Cym. *mf*

S.D.

B.D.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 5 through 10. It features six string staves (1-6) and three percussion staves (Timp., Cym., S.D., B.D.). The strings are in a B-flat major key signature and play a rhythmic pattern of eighth and quarter notes. The percussion parts include a snare drum (S.D.) and a bass drum (B.D.) with a consistent pattern, and a cymbal (Cym.) with a single strike in measure 5. The timpani (Timp.) part has a single note in measure 5. The dynamic marking *mf* is present at the beginning of each staff.

11

1

2

3

4

5

6

Timp. *mf*

Cym. *mf*

S.D.

B.D.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 11 through 16. It features six string staves (1-6) and three percussion staves (Timp., Cym., S.D., B.D.). The strings continue with their rhythmic pattern. The percussion parts include a snare drum (S.D.) and a bass drum (B.D.) with a consistent pattern, and a cymbal (Cym.) with a single strike in measure 11. The timpani (Timp.) part has a single note in measure 11. The dynamic marking *mf* is present at the beginning of each staff.

17

1 *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

2 *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

3 *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

4 *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

5 *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

6 *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

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

Cym.

S.D. *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

B.D. *p* *cresc.* *mf* *f*

22

1 *rit.* *mf*

2 *rit.* *mf*

3 *rit.* *mf*

4 *rit.* *mf*

5 *rit.* *mf*

6 *rit.* *mf*

Timp. *rit.* *mf*

Cym.

S.D. *rit.* *mf*

B.D. *rit.* *mf*

1

2

3

4

5

6

Timp.

Cym.

S.D.

B.D.