

La Primavera

Concerto in E maggiore
from Le Quattro Stagioni

Antonio Vivaldi

*arranged by Paul De Bra for
accordion orchestra
(solo, 1, 2, 3, 4, bass)*

La Primavera, or the spring season, is generally a happy season from Le Quattro Stagioni by Antonio Vivaldi. The first movement is all about the arrival of spring, with a gentle breeze, birds singing, but there is also a brief thunderstorm (not so happy). In the second movement we are on a flowery meadow with a herd of sleeping goats and a howling dog. The third movement expresses nymphs and shepherds dancing (with a hint of the sound of bagpipes). It is a celebration of spring.

The arrangement is for accordion orchestra, consisting of a solo part and then 4 accordion parts and bass, but the accordion parts have solo and tutti sections, so to distinguish clearly between them you need at least 10 players in the orchestra.

Warning: this composition (and thus also the arrangement) is quite difficult (except for the second movement).

A recording by Professor P is available on YouTube.

This arrangement is provided under the Creative Commons Attribution license (and the recording as well).

Le Quattro Stagioni

La Primavera

Antonio Vivaldi
arr. Paul De Bra

Allegro Spring has arrived

light tremolo (otherwise )



Solo

Acc. 1

Acc. 2

Acc. 3

Acc. 4

Bass

continuo: all notes always decay

4



S

I

II

III

IV

B

f

f

f

f

mf

f

Le Quattro Stagioni

8

S
I
II
III
IV
B

p

p

p

p

p

The birds celebrate her return with a festive song.

rubato

12

S
I
II
III
IV
B

mf

tr

rubato

mf

tr

tr

mf

Solo

Le Quattro Stagioni

3

16

S

I

II

III

IV

B

18

S

I

II

III

IV

B

Le Quattro Stagioni

Musical score for Le Quattro Stagioni, page 4, measures 20-21. The score consists of five staves labeled S, I, II, III, IV, and B from top to bottom. The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 20 starts with a forte dynamic. The soprano (S) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The alto (I) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The basso (B) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. Measures 21 begin with a forte dynamic. The soprano (S) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The alto (I) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The basso (B) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note.

Musical score for Le Quattro Stagioni, page 4, measures 22-23. The score consists of five staves labeled S, I, II, III, IV, and B from top to bottom. The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 22 starts with a forte dynamic. The soprano (S) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The alto (I) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The basso (B) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. Measures 23 begin with a forte dynamic. The soprano (S) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The alto (I) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note. The basso (B) has a grace note followed by a dotted half note.

Le Quattro Stagioni

5

24

S

I

II

III

IV

B

27

S

I

II

III

IV

B

Le Quattro Stagioni

Murmuring streams are
caressed by a soft breeze.

31

Soprano (S): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Starts with eighth-note pairs, then sixteenth-note patterns.

Alto (I): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Mirrors the soprano line.

Tenor (II): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Mirrors the soprano line.

Bass (III): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Mirrors the soprano line.

Cello (IV): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Sustains notes in measure 31, then rests.

Double Bass (B): Bass clef, 2 sharps. Sustains notes in measure 31, then eighth-note patterns.

34

Soprano (S): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Sixteenth-note patterns.

Alto (I): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Sixteenth-note patterns.

Tenor (II): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Sixteenth-note patterns.

Bass (III): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Eighth-note patterns.

Cello (IV): Treble clef, 2 sharps. Rests.

Double Bass (B): Bass clef, 2 sharps. Eighth-note patterns.

37

S

I

II

III

IV

B

40

S

I

II

III

IV

B

Dark skies, thunder...
(tip: this
measure tacet)

Le Quattro Stagioni

... and lightning

(tip: this
measure tacet)

44

Soprano (S)
Alto (I)
Tenor (II)
Bass (III)
Bassoon (IV)
Bassoon (B)

47

8 -

Soprano (S)
Alto (I)
Tenor (II)
Bass (III)
Bassoon (IV)
Bassoon (B)

49

8

S

I

II

III

IV

B

51

8

S

I

II

III

IV

B

Le Quattro Stagioni

8

53

S

I

II

III

IV

B

8

55

S

I

II

III

IV

B

Le Quattro Stagioni
Thunder and lightning fade away into silence

and the birds start singing again

11

59

rubato

Solo

tr.

mp

63

(#)

Solo

tr.

tr.

tr.

65

S

I

II

III

IV

B

f Tutti

f Tutti

f

f

mf

f

67

S

I

II

III

IV

B

rubato

mp

71

S

I

II

III

IV

B

mp

74

a tempo
Tutti

S

I

II

III

IV

B

tr

f

f

f

mf

f

77

S

I

II

III

IV

B

p

p

p

p

pp

p

80

S I II III IV B

Largo e pianissimo sempre

On a flowery meadow...



the sleeping goat herd

83

S

I

II

III

IV

B

mp

leafy branches rustling overhead

p tip: play more like triplets: 2-1 instead of 3-1
branches rustling overhead

p no cassotto, perhaps 8vb if possible
the howling dog

mp

86

S

I

II

III

IV

B

Musical score for Le Quattro Stagioni, page 16, measures 89-90. The score consists of six staves labeled S, I, II, III, IV, and B. The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 89 starts with a single note on staff S. Staff I has a sixteenth-note pattern. Staff II has a sixteenth-note pattern. Staff III has eighth-note pairs. Staff IV has a single note. Staff B has a single note. Measures 90 begin with a single note on staff S, followed by a sixteenth-note pattern on staff I, a sixteenth-note pattern on staff II, eighth-note pairs on staff III, and a single note on staff IV.

Musical score for Le Quattro Stagioni, page 16, measures 92-93. The score consists of six staves labeled S, I, II, III, IV, and B. The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 92 starts with a single note on staff S, followed by a sixteenth-note pattern on staff I, a sixteenth-note pattern on staff II, eighth-note pairs on staff III, and a single note on staff IV. Measures 93 begin with a single note on staff S, followed by a sixteenth-note pattern on staff I, a sixteenth-note pattern on staff II, eighth-note pairs on staff III, and a single note on staff IV.

95

S

I

II

III

IV

B

98

S

I

II

III

IV

B

101

S

I

II

III

IV

B

104

S

I

II

III

IV

B

107

S

I

II

III

IV

B

110

S

I

II

III

IV

B

113

Soprano (S)
Alto (I)
Tenor (II)
Bass (III)
Bassoon (IV)
Cello/Bass (B)

116

Soprano (S)
Alto (I)
Tenor (II)
Bass (III)
Bassoon (IV)
Cello/Bass (B)

119

Soprano (S), Alto (I), Tenor (II), Bass (III), Bassoon (IV), Double Bass (B)

Allegro

With the sound of bagpipes nymphs and
shepherds dance and make Spring look brilliant.

122

Soprano (S), Alto (I), Tenor (II), Bass (III), Bassoon (IV), Double Bass (B)

126

S

I

II

III

IV

B

mf

p

tr

mf

p

mp

mf

mp

mp

mf

p

mp

129

S

I

II

III

IV

B

mf

tr

mf

mf

mp

132

S I II III IV B

rubato

8

p

pp

136

S I II III IV B

mf

8

mp

mf

139 8

This musical score page shows two staves of music for five voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Bassoon). The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 139 starts with Soprano and Alto playing eighth-note pairs. Measures 140 and 141 show sustained notes from the bassoon and bass. Measure 142 begins with Soprano eighth-note pairs, followed by Alto, Tenor, and Bassoon entries.

142 8

This musical score page continues the piece. Measure 142 includes dynamic markings: *mf* for Alto, Tenor, and Bassoon; *tr* (trill) for Bassoon; and *tr* for Bass. Measure 143 includes dynamic markings: *mf* for Alto, Tenor, and Bassoon; *tr* for Bassoon; *tr* for Bass; and *mp* (mezzo-forte) for Bassoon. The bassoon also has a dynamic marking *mp* at the bottom of the staff.

146

S
I
II
III
IV
B

150

S
I
II
III
IV
B

153

S
I
II
III
IV
B

156

S
I
II
III
IV
B

Solo
mp Solo
mp
mp

159

S

I

II

III

IV

B

mp

p

163

S

I

II

III

IV

B

169

S

I

II

III

IV

B

mp
Tutti (bellow shake)

p
Tutti (bellow shake)

171

S

I

II

III

IV

B

174

S

I

II

III bellow shake

IV

B

176

S

I

II

III

IV

B

178

rit. ad lib a tempo

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

181

184

S

I

II

III

IV

B

187

S

I

II

III

IV

B

190

S

I

II

III

IV

B

rubato

p

194

S

I

II

III

IV

B

198

tr a tempo

mf

p mf

mf

p mp

mf

201

204

S

I

II

III

IV

B

p

p

p

p

p

208

S

I

II

III

IV

B

rit. (ad lib)

tr