

# Luberon Dances

Composer's Programme Notes:

Luberon Dances (2018)

*To Duncan and Frances Goodwin*

The Luberon is a *massif* (a close-knit group of mountains) in central Provence in the south of France. It is composed of three mountain ranges, The Lesser Luberon (*Petit Luberon*), the Greater Luberon (*Grand Luberon*) and the Eastern Luberon (*Luberon oriental*). I have visited this region several times over many years, in a rich mix of climates, and even turned aspects into music during the course of my *journeys*. Readers may well be most familiar with the area through Peter Mayle's novel *A Year in Provence* and other volumes concerning themselves with the people and culture of Provence. Mayle's first French *mas* (country farmhouse) was located in Menerbes and it was to this town that I first came, a guest of English Francophiles and to whose various abodes I have returned ever since.

My Luberon Dances echo some aspects of French dance music but only very loosely. It would be better described as a piece of France through the eyes and ears of an English visitor happily absorbing the landscape and culture on a mini tour of the area. I have given each of the five brief movements a subtitle taken from a town or village within, or close by, the area and a secondary tempo indication which is that of a specific French dance form. Again the latter is to be treated with a dash of poetic licence. The essence of the piece is its tribute to a special place and the people associated with it. Who cares about nuance when armed with a glass of Pastis and a well seasoned truffle omelette?!

1: Menerbes (Overture) – the village is set on a high hilltop surrounded by a wall, with a citadel at its western end. The music is a gentle opening dance entirely in 6/8 which moves from *arco* (bowed) at its opening to *pizzicato* (plucked) by its conclusion.

2: Roussillon (Rigaudon) – this village is distinguished by its ochre deposits delivering it many impressive red cliffs and quarries. The music is cast in constantly changing time signatures providing much rhythmic dexterity between its two subjects: a brittle fanfare and a percussive, yet lyrical, folk-style dance.

3: Notre Dame de Lumieres (Courante) – this discrete hamlet is located in a valley and was once a major place of pilgrimage in Provence. The music is more intimate with three soloists (violin, viola and cello) pitted against a rocking *ostinato* figure in the main body of strings.

4: Bonnieux (Pastorale) – one of the many historic hill villages in the region, Bonnieux keeps a watchful eye on events below. The music is essentially pastoral maintaining its lyrical 6/8 gait throughout and featuring some high whispering harmonics, as comments, here and there.

5: Lacoste (Rondeau) – the old mountain village boasts the ruins of the castle lived in by the infamous Marquis de Sade. The music is a highly charged rhythmic *rondo*, again featuring ever changing time signatures, and concluding this essentially French dance suite with a very English perfect cadence!

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Not for Rehearsal or Performance

To Duncan and Frances Goodwin

# LUBERON DANCES

for String Orchestra

## 1. MÉNERBES

MARTIN ELLERBY

Overture (♩ = c. 56)

Violin I *mp espressivo*

Violin II *mp espressivo*

Viola *mp espressivo*

Violoncello *mp espressivo*

Double Bass *mp*  
[N.B. 2nd bass is 5 string]

div.

Vln. I *mp* — *mf*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. *unis.*

Db. *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*

A

Vln. I *mp* *sec* *mf*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *pizz.* *arco* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Db. *pizz.* *mf* *mf*

B

18

Vln. I *mf* *sotto voce* *div.*

Vln. II *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Db. arco *div.* unis. *div.*

**C** *div. a3*

23

Vln. I *f* *div. a3* *f* *div.* *mp*

Vln. II *f* *f* *div.* *mp*

Vla. pizz. *f* *f* *mp*

Vc. pizz. *f* *f* *mp*

Db. *f* *f* *mp*

28

Vln. I *mf* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *f* *unis.*

Vla. *mf* *f* *mf* arco

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf* arco

Db. *mf* *f*

33 unis. E

Vln. I *mf* *mp*

Vln. II *mf* *mp*

Vla. *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *mp*

Db. *mf* *mp* unis. pizz.

38

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Db. arco pizz. arco *mf* div. *mf*

43 F

Vln. I pizz. *p* *mf*

Vln. II pizz. *p* *mf*

Vla. pizz. *p* *mf*

Vc. pizz. *p* *mf*

Db. div. pizz. *p* *fl.v.* pizz.

**G** half only

48

Vln. I *mp* half only *tutti* *mf*

Vln. II *mp* half only *tutti* *mf*

Vla. *mp* half only *tutti* *mf*

Vc. *mp* unis. half only *tutti* *mf*

Db. *mp* *f l.v.* *mf* *f l.v.*

54

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Db. *f l.v.* *div.*

59

Vln. I *div.* *ff l.v.*

Vln. II *div.* *ff l.v.*

Vla. *div.* *ff l.v.*

Vc. *div.* *ff l.v.*

Db. *div. arco* *p* *a niente*

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## 2. ROUSSILLON

Rigaudon Tempo I (♩ = c. 130)

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score is in 6/8 time and consists of five measures. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The dynamics range from *f* to *ffz*. The strings are marked *(arco)*. The Violoncello part includes a *div.* (divisi) marking in the final measure. A large watermark "Not for Rehearsal Score Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

**A** Tempo II (♩ = c. 160) - tutti poco a poco crescendo to **B**

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score is in 3/4 time and consists of six measures. The key signature has one flat. The dynamics range from *p* to *mp*. The Violin parts are marked *unis.* (unison). The Viola and Violoncello parts have *Soli* markings. The Double Bass part is marked *pizz. (strum open strings)* and *p 'quasi guitar'*. A large watermark "Not for Rehearsal Score Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score is in 3/4 time and consists of five measures. The key signature has one flat. The dynamics range from *p* to *mp*. The Violin parts are marked *unis.* (unison). The Viola and Violoncello parts have *Soli* markings. The Double Bass part is marked *pizz. (strum open strings)* and *p 'quasi guitar'*. A large watermark "Not for Rehearsal Score Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

**B**

17

div. pizz. *f* unis. arco 3

div. pizz. *f* unis. arco 3

div. pizz. *f* unis. arco 3

div. pizz. *f* unis. arco 3

div. pizz. *f* unis. arco 3

div. pizz. *f* unis. arco 3

**C** Tutti poco a poco crescendo to [D]

22

div. *fz* unis. *f* *mp* *Soli* 3

div. *fz* unis. *f* *mp* *Soli* 3

unis. arco *fz* pizz. (open strings) *p* arco

unis. arco *fz* pizz. (open strings) *p* arco

(pizz. strum open strings) *p* 'quasi guitar'

27

3

3

3

3

3

3

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**F**

46

Vln. I *div.*

Vln. II *f legato*

Vla. *arco*

Vc. *fz* *arco* *p* *fz*

Db. *fritmico*

51

Vln. I *fz*

Vln. II *fz*

Vla. *un.* *fz*

Vc. *p* *fz* *div.* *f legato*

Db. *f legato*

**G** Tutti poco a poco crescendo to [H]

56

Vln. I *fzp* *Soli* *mp*

Vln. II *fzp* *Soli* *mp*

Vla. *un.* *mp*

Vc. *un.* *mp*

Db. *un. (open strings)* *mp*

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61

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

65

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

**H**

69

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

div. *f*

unis. pizz. (open strings)

*p l.v.*

unis. pizz. (open strings)

*f*

div. *f*

*p l.v.*

unis. pizz.

*f*

div. *f*

*p l.v.*

unis. pizz.

*f*

div. *f*

*p l.v.*

unis. pizz. (open strings)

I Tutti poco a poco crescendo to [J]

74

Vln. I *div. arco* *f* *div. a 4* *ffz*

Vln. II *div. arco* *f* *div. a 4* *ffz*

Vla. *div. arco* *f* *div. a 4* *ffz* *unis. pizz.* *p*

Vc. *div. arco* *f* *div. a 4* *ffz* *unis. pizz.* *p* *div. (open strings)*

Db. *arco* *ffz* *p ritmico*

79

Vln. I *Soli unis.* *p legato* *unis.*

Vln. II *p legato*

Vla. *p legato*

Vc. *p legato*

Db. *p legato*

83

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

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86

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

div.

*ffz*

arco

unis.

*fz*

3

**J** Tempo I (♩ = c. 130)

89

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

unis.

*f*

*fz*

*f*

*f*

*f*

92

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

div.

*ffz*

*ff*

*ffz*

*ff*

*ffz*

*ff*

unis.

*ffz*

unis.

*ffz*

unis.

*ffz*

unis.

*ffz*

### 3. NOTRE DAME DE LUMIÈRES

Courante (♩ = c. 100)

Solo Violin

Solo Viola

Solo Cello

Solo (open)

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

div. con sord.

*p legato*

9 **A**

Solo Vln.

Solo Vla.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*mp espressivo*

*mf*

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**B**

16

Solo Vln.

Solo Vla.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

**C**

24

Solo Vln.

Solo Vla.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

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D

31

Solo Vln.

Solo Vla.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

E

39

Solo (open)

Solo Vln.

Solo Vla.

Solo Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

F

Musical score for Solo Vln., Solo Vla., and Solo Vc. measures 46-53. The Solo Vln. part features dynamics *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. The Solo Vla. and Solo Vc. parts are marked with rests.

Musical score for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Db. measures 46-53. The Vln. I and Vla. parts feature sustained chords. The Vln. II, Vc., and Db. parts feature rhythmic accompaniment.

Musical score for Solo Vln., Solo Vla., and Solo Vc. measures 54-61. The Solo Vln. part features dynamics *p*, *mf* *espressivo*, and *mf* *espressivo*. The Solo Vla. and Solo Vc. parts feature dynamics *mf* *espressivo* and *mf* *espressivo*. The word "Solo" is written above the Solo Vln. and Solo Vla. staves.

Musical score for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Db. measures 54-61. The Vln. I and Vla. parts feature sustained chords. The Vln. II, Vc., and Db. parts feature rhythmic accompaniment.

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H

Solo Vln. *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

Solo Vla. *f* *mf* *f*

Solo Vc. *f*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Solo Vln. *mp* *pp* *ppp*

Solo Vla. *mp* *p* *pp*

Solo Vc. *mf* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*Rallentando al fine*

*a niente*

*a niente*

*a niente*

*a niente*

*a niente*

div.

*a niente*

# 4. BONNIEUX

Pastorale (♩ = c. 66)

(senza sord.)  
Soli

Violin I *mp legato*

Violin II (senza sord.) div. harmonics *mf legato* *p*

Viola (senza sord.) *p legato*

Violoncello (senza sord.) div. *p legato*

Double Bass (senza sord.) *p legato*

6

Vln. I **A**

Vln. II *mf* *p*

Vla.

Vc.

Db. div. pizz. *p l.v.*

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11

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*mp*

*mf* *p*

*p legato*

arco

div.

16

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*mf marcato*

*p* *mf marcato*

*mf marcato*

*mf marcato*

*mf marcato*

div. unis. div.

*mf marcato*

nat.

21

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

unis.

**C**

*mp legato*

*p legato*

*p legato*

*p legato*

*pzz.*

*p l.v.*

27

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

div.

*mp*

div. harmonics

*mf* *p*

unis. nat.

**D**

Musical score for rehearsal mark D, measures 32-36. The score is for five instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo/mood is *mf marcato*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. A large diagonal watermark reading "Not for Rehearsal or Performance" is overlaid across the score.

**E**

Musical score for rehearsal mark E, measures 37-41. The score is for five instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The key signature changes to one flat (Bb) and the time signature remains 4/4. The tempo/mood is *p legato*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. A large diagonal watermark reading "Not for Rehearsal or Performance" is overlaid across the score.

42

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

div.

*mp*

div. harmonics

*mf* *p*

unis. nat.

div.

unis.

47

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

unis.

*mp*

div. harmonics

*mf* *p*

unis.

div.

**F**

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52

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*mp*

(div. harmonics)

*mf*

*p*

div.

unis.

*p legato*

56

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

*mf*

*pp*

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

div. a 3 harmonics

div.

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# 5. LACOSTE

Rondeau (♩ = c. 160)

Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Violoncello  
Double Bass

unis.  
*f ritmico*

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Db.

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Db.

**A**

*mp leggiero*  
div.  
*mp leggiero*  
*mp leggiero*  
*mp leggiero*  
pizz.  
*mp l.v. leggiero*



D

37

Vln. I unis. *fritmico*

Vln. II unis. *fritmico*

Vla. unis. *fritmico*

Vc. unis. *fritmico*

Db. arco unis. *fritmico*

E

43

Vln. I *div.* *fz*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *fz* *mf*

Vc. *fz* *Soli*

Db. *fz*

49

Vln. I *mp* *leggero*

Vln. II *mp* *leggero*

Vla. *mp* *leggero*

Vc. *mf* *legato*

Db. *pizz.* *mp* *l.v. leggero*

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55

Vln. I *mf legato* unis.

Vln. II *mf legato*

Vla. *mf legato*

Vc. *mp leggiero*

Db. *mp leggiero*

61

Vln. I *f legato* unis.

Vln. II *mf* *fritmico*

Vla. *mf* *fritmico* unis.

Vc. *mf* unis.

Db. *mf l.v.* *fritmico arco* unis.

67

Vln. I *mp leggiero*

Vln. II *div.* *mp leggiero*

Vla. *mp legato*

Vc. *mp leggiero*

Db. *pizz.* *mp l.v. leggiero*

H

73

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

unis.

*fritmico*

unis.

*fritmico*

unis.

*fritmico*

unis.

*fritmico*

arco

unis.

*fritmico*

79

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

85

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*fz*

*f*

*ffz*

*fz*

*f*

*ffz*

*fz*

*f*

*ffz*

*fz*

*f*

*ffz*

*fz*

*f*

*ffz*

div.