

Modest Petrovich Mussorgsky (21 March, 1839 – 28 March, 1881), one of the Russian composers known as the Five, was an innovator of Russian music in the romantic period. He strove to achieve a uniquely Russian musical identity, often in deliberate defiance of the established conventions of Western music. Many of his works were inspired by Russian history, Russian folklore, and other nationalist themes, including the opera *Boris Godunov*, the orchestral tone poem *Night on Bald Mountain*, and the piano suite *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

Hopak (also known as Gopak) is a dance excerpt from *The Fair at Sorochyntsi*, an opera which was incomplete at Mussorgsky's death.

Dr. Michael Pratt has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Croswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Mikhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

Hopak

Modest Mussorgsky
arr. by Michael Pratt

Duration: 1:45

Vivace ♩ = 120

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score is for a brass ensemble in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The instruments are Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2, Horn in F, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. The tempo is marked 'Vivace' with a quarter note equal to 120 beats per minute. The dynamic is *sf* (sforzando). The music features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes, with accents and slurs. Measures 1 and 4 contain dense sixteenth-note passages, while measures 2, 3, 5, and 6 have a more sparse texture with quarter and eighth notes.

Musical score for measures 7-13. The instruments are B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., Euph., and Tba. The tempo and key signature remain the same. The dynamic is *sf*. Measures 7 and 8 feature sixteenth-note passages in the trumpets and trombones. Measures 9-12 show a mix of rhythmic patterns, including quarter notes and eighth notes, with accents and slurs. Measure 13 concludes with a sustained note in the trumpets and trombones, and a quarter note in the euphonium and tuba.