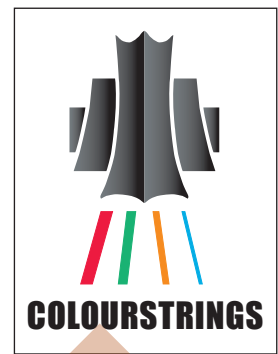


# Maryan Balkwill



## **REPERTOIRE for CELLO** **from English-speaking countries**

Series 1 Songs without a Stave  
Book A

# PREFACE

Welcome to Series 1: Songs without a Stave, from “Repertoire for Cello” – a series of repertoire books of songs from English-speaking countries.

Series 1: Songs without a Stave

Series 2: Pentatonic Songs

Series 3: Children’s Songs

Series 4: Easy Diatonic Songs

Series 5: Intermediate Diatonic Songs

Series 6: Christmas Carols

Series 7: English Renaissance

Series 8: Songs from the British Isles and Last Night of the Proms

Colourstrings, now an internationally known and respected approach to string teaching, was devised in Helsinki in the 1970s by the Hungarian brothers, Géza and Csaba Szilvay. It is based on the teaching of Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967), the great Hungarian composer and pedagogue. For obvious reasons, Finnish and Hungarian folk songs were selected to form the basis of the Colourstrings teaching material.

This collection of repertoire books contains my selection of songs from English-speaking nations which I consider are suitable for adaptation to the teaching methods of Csaba Szilvay’s Colourstrings Cello School, and are designed to complement it.

There are explanatory guides in each series for teachers and parents. The style of these series of books will be familiar to Colourstrings teachers, but they are also designed for all cello teachers so that more students will be able to benefit from this unique approach to teaching. I hope these books will appeal to cellists of any ability, age and stage.

The songs, which include folk songs and other familiar melodies, are chosen from English-speaking countries including the British Isles, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

# A Brief Introduction to the Colourstrings Symbols

Colours: **blue colour** represents A string  
**orange colour** represents D string  
**green colour** represents G string  
**red colour** represents C string

A string fingerings: 1 2 3 4  
D string fingerings: 1 2 3 4  
G string fingerings: 1 2 3 4  
C string fingerings: 1 2 3 4









lower in pitch: 1↓ 1↓

higher in pitch: 2↑ 4↑

extension between fingers: —

e.g. 1—2↑

Positions:


-  Half position
-  1st position
-  2nd position
-  3rd position
-  4th position
-  5th position
-  6th position
-  7th position


① Circled finger number indicates change of position.


Basic (suggested) positions and fingerings are normally written **above** the staff. Alternative positions and fingerings are written **below** the staff.

Example:



 The Bird position  
(Thumb position one octave higher than the open string)

 The Moon position  
(Thumb position one octave and a perfect fifth higher than the open string)

 The Sun position  
(Thumb position two octaves higher than the open string)

The parts of the bow  
(bow division):

- ◁ point/tip of the bow
- ▢ heel/nut/frog of the bow
- lower half of the bow
- ← upper half of the bow
- ↔ whole bow
- ≡ middle of the bow

Relative Solmisation:

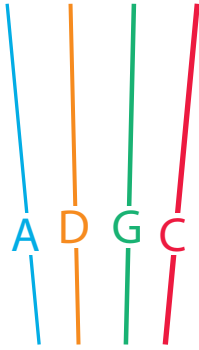
DO RE MI FA SO LA TI DO'

DO is the tonic of the major.

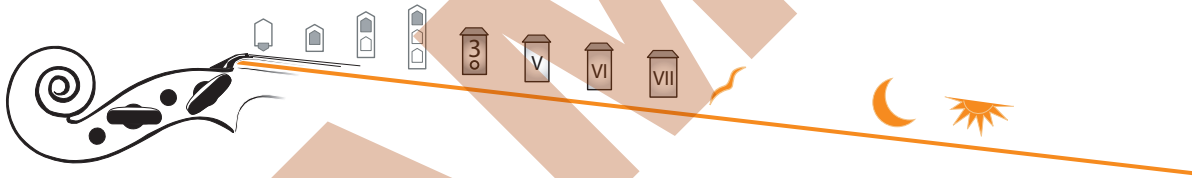
LA is the tonic of the minor.

# How do we read the Colourstrings notation?

Colour tells us which string to play on



Position symbol – where to place the left hand



Number – indicates which finger



It's easy!

# How do the 'magic notes' (harmonics) work?

we write, we play:

sounds:

we write, we play:

Then we select the notes needed for our song, e.g. a Pentatonic scale

LA RE SO DO MI

which we can play either here

DO RE MI SO LA

or here

DO RE MI SO LA

and equip them with our Colourstrings position symbols and fingerings.

DO RE MI SO LA

DO RE MI SO LA

## Series 1 Songs without a Stave

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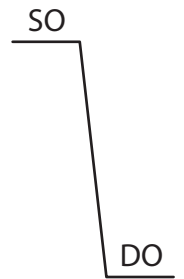
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# Chocolate Treats



The musical score consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a rhythmic pattern of footprints above the notes. The notes are primarily quarter notes and eighth notes. The first system uses a simple rhythmic pattern. The second system introduces a triplet of eighth notes (marked '3') and a pair of eighth notes (marked '2'). The third system features a half note followed by a quarter note, with a dynamic marking of  $mf$ . The fourth system continues with similar rhythmic patterns. A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

\*) left hand pizzicato

\*\*\*) play with the bow (arco)



The musical notation is organized into five systems, each with a corresponding lyric line. The notes are color-coded: orange, blue, red, and green. Symbols include a '0' for open string, '+' for natural harmonics, and a bird symbol for bird harmonics. Arrows indicate bowing directions.

System 1: Orange quarter note (0), blue quarter note (+), orange quarter note, bird symbol, orange quarter note, blue quarter note (+), orange quarter note, bird symbol.

System 2: Orange eighth notes (two pairs), blue eighth notes (two pairs), orange quarter note, blue quarter note (+), orange quarter note, bird symbol.

System 3: Red quarter note (0), green quarter note (0), red quarter note, bird symbol, red quarter note, green quarter note, red quarter note, bird symbol.

System 4: Red eighth notes (two pairs), green eighth notes (two pairs), red quarter note, green quarter note, red quarter note, bird symbol.

System 5: Green quarter note (3), bird symbol, green quarter note, bird symbol, green quarter note, orange quarter note, green quarter note, bird symbol.

System 6: Green eighth notes (two pairs), orange eighth notes (two pairs), green quarter note, orange quarter note, green quarter note, bird symbol.

Lyrics: Choco - late treats Choco - late treats Oom - pa loom - pa Oom - pa loom - pa Choco - late treats

\*)  Bird harmonic – one octave above the open string. See 'A Brief Introduction to Colourstrings Symbols'.





# The Keel Row

\*)

As I came by Sand - gate, thro' Sand - gate, by Sand - gate, As

I came by Sand - gate, I heard a las - sie sing: *Fine* O,

weel may the keel row, the keel row, the keel row, O,

weel may the keel row that my lad - die's in. *D. C. al Fine*

\*) left hand pizzicato, right hand pizzicato, open string bowing, bird and sun positions or a combination.