

National Anthems Online

UKRAINE: Shche ne vmerla Ukrainy

The music for the Ukrainian national anthem was written in 1863 by Mykhailo Verbytsky, a Ukrainian composer and Greek-Catholic priest. He set a patriotic poem by Pavlo Chubynsky, written a year earlier, which expressed the wish for Ukrainians to rule their own land. Verbytsky originally wrote the score as a solo song and later arranged it for orchestra and chorus. The first choral performance was given in 1864 at the Ukraine Theatre in Lviv. Widely sung around the country as the *Hymn to Ukraine*, both the melody and lyrics were similar to those of the Polish and Serbian anthems of the time. Over the course of the years, various changes were made to Chubynsky's original words. Following the country's independence in 1991, after the break up of the Soviet Union, many Ukrainians felt that the lyrics were unduly pessimistic and while the Ukrainian government officially approved the Verbytsky melody, it did not approve the original lyrics. This attitude may have been influenced by political correctness but despite contests for replacement lyrics, none of the entries was accepted. Eventually on March 6, 2003, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine decided to use the original Chubynsky lyrics with slight changes to the text. The title means "Ukraine's glory has not perished".

Mykhailo Verbytsky was born in Jawornik Ruski (now Mlyny, Poland) and christened in Ulucz, the site of the oldest wooden church in Poland, where his father was the local priest. In adult life, Verbytsky was a prolific composer who wrote music and orchestrations to hundreds of plays and musicals. In 2005, on the 190th anniversary of Verbytsky's birth, celebrations were held in the composer's native town.

Several slightly different versions of the anthem are in existence, each with variations in melody and harmony. This arrangement is based loosely on the manuscript of a band arrangement from the Kiev Conservatoire, edited by M. Skorik and E. Stankevich and orchestrated by O. Morozov.

Mykhailo Verbytsky (1815-1870)
Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

$\text{♩} = 90$

Part 1
mf

Part 2
mf

Part 3
mf

Part 4
mf

Part 5
mf

Part 6
mf

Timpani
mf In Bb, G and D

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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Musical score for measures 6-10. The score consists of six staves for strings (1-6) and four staves for percussion (Timp., Cym., S.D., B.D.). The key signature is B-flat major. Measures 6-10 show a gradual increase in dynamics from *p* to *mf*. The string parts feature a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and some triplets. The percussion parts are mostly silent, with a small contribution from the timpani in measure 10.

Musical score for measures 11-15. The score consists of six staves for strings (1-6) and four staves for percussion (Timp., Cym., S.D., B.D.). The key signature is B-flat major. Measures 11-15 show a gradual increase in dynamics from *mf* to *f*. The string parts continue with complex rhythmic patterns, including some sixteenth-note runs. The percussion parts remain mostly silent, with a small contribution from the timpani in measure 15.

1 *cresc.* *f*

2 *cresc.* *f*

3 *cresc.* *f*

4 *cresc.* *f*

5 *cresc.* *f*

6 *cresc.* *f*

Timp. *f*

Cym.

S.D. *cresc.* *f*

B.D. *cresc.* *f*

1

2

3

4

5

6

Timp.

Cym.

S.D.

B.D.

1 *cresc.* *ff*

2 *cresc.* *ff*

3 *cresc.* *ff*

4 *cresc.* *ff*

5 *cresc.* *ff*

6 *cresc.* *ff*

Timp. *cresc.* *ff*

Cym. *ff*

S.D. *cresc.* *ff*

B.D. *cresc.* *ff*

1 *molto rit. e cresc.*

2 *molto rit. e cresc.*

3 *molto rit. e cresc.*

4 *molto rit. e cresc.*

5 *molto rit. e cresc.*

6 *molto rit. e cresc.*

Timp. *molto rit. e cresc.*

Cym. *molto rit. e cresc.*

S.D. *molto rit. e cresc.*

B.D. *molto rit. e cresc.*