

I set out to write something fun and playful, both for the string players to perform and for the audience to enjoy. I imagine this piece could finish a first half or be an encore - it is meant to get people's feet tapping and be a happy distraction. During COVID times much of my composition has been more introspective, this piece was a chance to let go and create an exuberant romp.

Romp! is in rondo form, with a jaunty melody opening the piece in the first violin. This rondo theme is interspersed with a wistful waltz, and then later with a hoe-down, and American-West inspired dance. String effects include glissandi and the cello being strummed as a guitar.

The melodies are all original, and I explored various harmonic structures to give the piece edge and vitality. The whole builds in momentum to a rousing finish.