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# Music Arranging and Orchestration

*John Cacavas*

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## MUSIC ARRANGING AND ORCHESTRATION

by JOHN CACAVAS



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**John Cacavas : Music Arranging and Orchestration** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Music Arranging and Orchestration:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Not worth the timeBy lolwut?I got this as part of an orchestration class and while it had SOME useful information, it is not anywhere near as useful as other books. The chapters are relatively short, the examples were not helpful, and it summarized entire sections as opposed to delving into the qualities of each instrument. This Book is useful if you're arranging something for a marching band, but not if you're make a serious attempt at arranging a serious piece of music from one complex setup to another. Books on this subject

need to cover the complexities in sound, color, range, and ability that every instrument has to offer and this one does not. However, in its favor, it does take a passing mention at electronic instruments which should be done more in depth in other books. If you want books that take a serious look at orchestration and arrangement, start with "A Treatise on Instrumentation" by Hector Berlioz and Richard Strauss (translated by Theodore Front). That's a solid place to start, then ask your local university's Music History Teacher, Music Theory Teacher, or Music Composition Teacher for where to go next. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A very easy read. By Phil Buglass I haven't finished reading this book yet, but I am enjoying it a great deal. Firstly, one of the reasons I bought it was because of the author's background. He isn't just a writer of music books, but his music is well-known and, at least by me, well-liked. He has a very 'chatty' style about his writing, with all kinds of anecdotes relating to his own life experiences. There are many musical examples scattered throughout the book, with notated alternative solutions to many of the points he is raising. I don't remember the price I paid for the book, but I don't think it was terribly expensive. It is certainly a valuable addition to my growing orchestration/composition/arranging book collection! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I like the explanations and examples. By Sprkymrt I had a chance to look at this book at the library quite a few years ago and now I have one of my own to refer to for information. I like the explanations and examples.

Orchestrating is a highly complex technique and to many, even those with academic training, a mystery fraught with a labyrinth of hazards. What is required, along with innate talent and general musicality, is the practical "know how." This is hard to achieve without actual professional experience and contact with "live" orchestras. To this end, John Cacavas contributes his extensive experience and ability with a practical approach to the practical problems of orchestrating. It is in this context most orchestrators must function, and to whom this book should be of benefit. The author has been a "musical activist" in all the varied aspects of instrumental combination from the "classical" to the "contemporary," and in the diverse application of his skills in all the media that utilize music and "orchestrations."