

Sabre Dance



For years, the original 1942 version of Aram Khachaturian's "Sabre Dance" was not performed by American symphony orchestras because the Occupational Safety and Health Administration found the finale to be unduly hazardous. But in today's economically severe environment, spectacle trumps safety. Hence, the lively tune as Aram envisioned it is more likely to appear on a concert program, no matter the often dire consequences that befall the sacrificial percussionist.