



"The music for *The Zephyrtine: A Ballet Story*, is by turns atmospheric ("*Ben's Farm in Vermont*"), humorous ("*Dance of the Chocolate Cows*"), menacing ("*Is the Monster Comes Down from the Mountains*") or triumphantly festive ("*The Grand Celebration*"). Intended for children but musically sophisticated, it tells an entertaining story that those who haven't seen the ballet can follow in the whimsically illustrated CD booklet while reading the synopsis (or having it read to them). As a whole the score attractively blends Russian (including numerous Prokofiev-like episodes) and Latin influences (try the delightfully swaying "*Chaya the Blue Princess*") with Chesky's personal style. A well danced, beautifully costumed production supplemented with imaginative scenery would no doubt be an enthralling spectacle for children and their parents and might also be more involving for those with shorter attention spans. Still, a child's imagination is a powerful thing and, prompted by the plot, could easily provide sufficient 'background' for the music to take hold even without the theatrics."

*Robert Schulslaper* , Fanfare Magazine.