Theme and Variations on Shenandoah

For B¹ Clarinet, Percussion, and Piano

Gayle Kowalchyk and E. L. Lancaster

Commissioned by Music Teachers National Association for the 2020 National Conference in Chicago, Illinois

About the Music

"Shenandoah" is an American folk song from the early 19th century. Its exact origin is uncertain, but many believe that it was first sung by French sailors traveling down the Missouri River. By the end of the century, it had become popular as a sea shanty (work song) for sailors. The melody has been arranged for various combinations of vocalists and instrumentalists.

In these variations for B-flat clarinet, percussion, and piano, the haunting theme begins in the clarinet. The piano follows with all three instruments coming together in a lush setting. Each variation that follows was inspired by a famous piece.

We would like to thank the Music Teachers National Association and Ann Witherspoon, the National Chair of the Composer Commissioning Program, for commissioning this piece. A special thanks is extended to clarinetist Julia Heinen and percussionist Chase Lancaster for their invaluable input in the development of the work. Finally, we are grateful to University of Missouri faculty Wes Warnhoff (clarinet), Julia Gaines (percussion), and Janice Wenger (piano) for their premiere of the work at the 2020 MTNA National Conference.

Theme
Variation 1: Inspired by Paul Desmond's Take Five
Variation 2: Inspired by Johann Pachelbel's Canon in D
Variation 3: Inspired by Frédéric Chopin's "Minute" Waltz, Op. 64, No. 1 12
Variation 4: Inspired by Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2,
<i>Op. 18</i> (first movement)
Variation 5: Inspired by Scott Ioplin's The Entertainer



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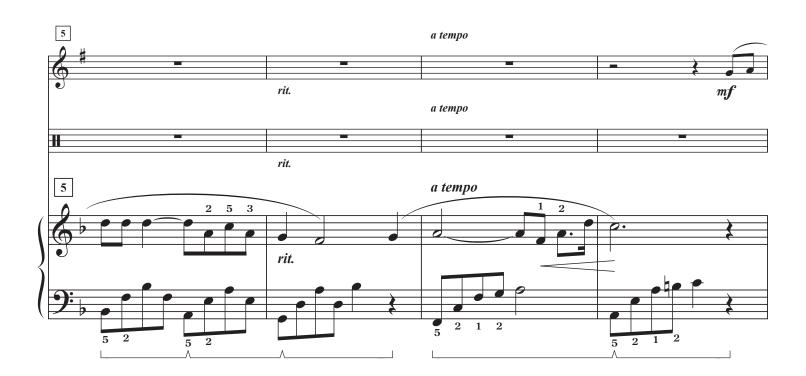
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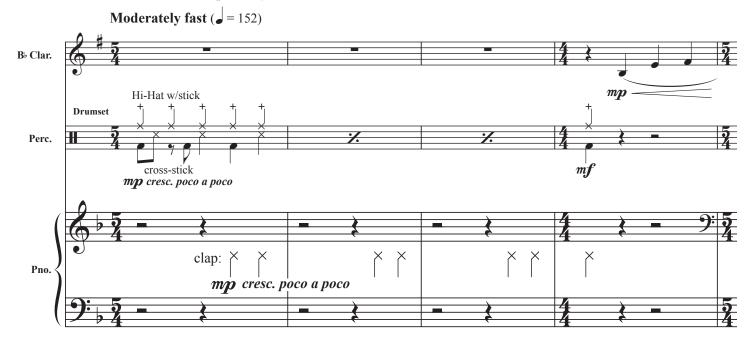
List of Percussion: Drumset (including Bass Drum, Crash Cymbal, Hi-Hat, Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal) Slide Whistle Triangle

American Folk Song Arr. Gayle Kowalchyk and E. L. Lancaster



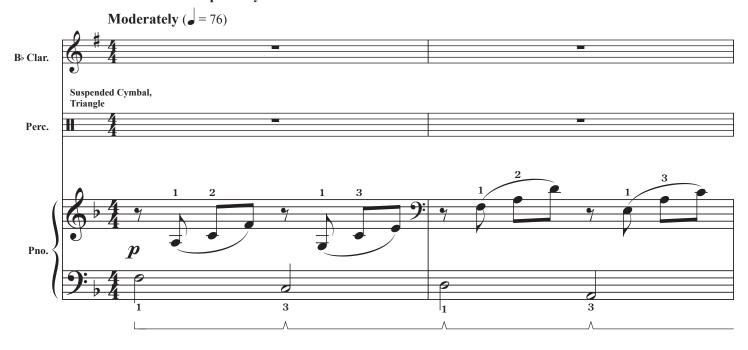


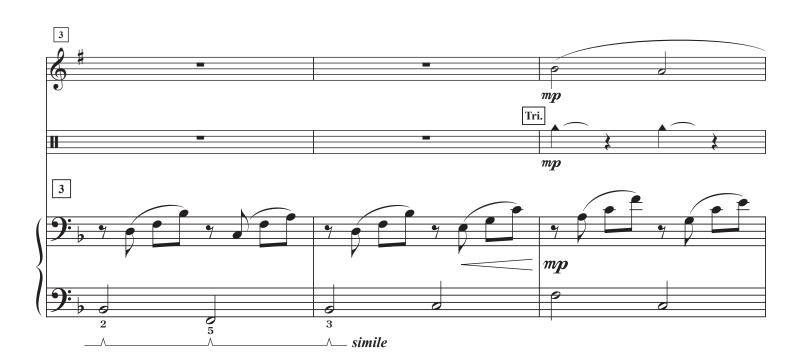
VARIATION 1: Inspired by Paul Desmond's Take Five





VARIATION 2: Inspired by Johann Pachelbel's Canon in D





VARIATION 5: Inspired by Scott Joplin's *The Entertainer*

