

*Commissioned by and dedicated to the Wayne State University Band, Harold Arnoldi, Conductor.*

# AMERICAN VARIATIONS

*Jerry H. Bilik*

Duration – 7:30

#### PROGRAM NOTE

In this work, the familiar Scottish folk tune *Barbara Allen*—one of the earliest popular songs in America—is woven into a series of stylistic settings representing the diverse cultural heritage of the American people. It depicts musically the essence of our country as a land where the recurring theme of human dignity transcends the endless variety of its individual citizens.

#### NOTE TO THE CONDUCTOR

The development of the folk-melody *Barbara Allen* in various musical styles will be interesting performance material while developing an awareness of the ethnic melodies and rhythms among both performers and audience. TEMPO DI HOEDOWN captures the style of the American square dance; TEMPO DI TARANTELLA echoes this popular Italian folk dance; TEMPO DI HASAPIKO develops the rhythms of the Greek folk dance; and TEMPO DI POLKA, the Czech folk dance. TEMPO DI BLUES is built on the sounds of the American jazz idiom; TEMPO DI JIG captures the lightness of the Irish folk dance; TEMPO DI HORA explores the Hebrew folk dance; and TEMPO DI ZAPATEADO, a Spanish folk dance, leads to the dance rhythms of America today—TEMPO DI ROCK. Each Variation should be interpreted so as to give the most representative feeling of the folk dance being developed.

#### INSTRUMENTATION

1 — Condensed Score  
 6 — 1st & 2nd Flutes (Piccolo)  
 2 — 1st & 2nd Oboes  
 1 — English Horn  
 2 — 1st & 2nd Bassoons  
 1 — Eb Clarinet  
 4 — 1st Bb Clarinet  
 4 — 2nd Bb Clarinet  
 4 — 3rd Bb Clarinet  
 2 — Eb Alto Clarinet  
 2 — Bb Bass Clarinet

1 — Eb Contrabass Clarinet	1 — Baritone (T.C.)
1 — Bb Contrabass Clarinet	2 — Baritone (B.C.)
2 — 1st & 2nd Eb Alto Saxophones	6 — Tubas
1 — Bb Tenor Saxophone	1 — String Bass
1 — Eb Baritone Saxophone	2 — Percussion I — 1 or 2 players (Xylophone, Bells, Maracas)
3 — 1st Bb Cornet	1 — Percussion II — 1 player (Timpani, Guiro)
6 — 2nd & 3rd Bb Cornets	4 — Percussion III — 4 players (Snare Drum, Wood Block, Sandpaper Blocks, Hand Cymbal, Suspended Cymbal, Bass Drum, Tambourine, Castanets, Cowbell, Timbales or Bongos)
2 — 1st & 2nd Bb Trumpets	
2 — 1st & 2nd Horns in F	
2 — 3rd & 4th Horns in F	
4 — 1st & 2nd Trombones	
2 — 3rd Trombone	

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# American Variations

Perf. Time: 7:30

Jerry H. Bilik

## Condensed Score

Slow ( $\text{♩} = 60$ )

Ob. Solo (c. Fl.)  
mf

Hn. Solo (espr.)  
mf

Cor. 1 Solo  
p

A. Sax., Trb.  
Bar., Bssn.  
mp

Solo (Hn.)

rall.

accel.

(molto)

High W. W., A. Sax.  
f

Ob.

Cor. (Cor.) + A. Sax. Cls. unis.  
Hn.

Bar. Trb., Bar. W. W.  
Add low W. W. (cue Bass) mp

12 Alla breve ( $\text{♩} = 68$ )

High W. W.  
f

Tpts., E. Hn.  
Cls.  
Hns.

Low Inst.

mf

13

Hns.

Add Trb.

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20 Bouncy (4) ( $\text{J}=136$ ) ( $\text{d}=\text{d}$ )

Tpts. (muted)  
Ob., E. H., A. Sax. Add Cors.  
Bar., low W. W., St. Bass  
Trbs.

Cors., Tpts. (muted)  
ff  
W. Blk.  
Trbs.  
ff

25 Tempo di Hoe-down  
Cls., (Fl. 8va)

Add Ob., Sax.  
(Fls., Cls.)

mf Hns.  
mf Bar., W. W., St. Bass,  
+ Perc. (Sandpaper, Sn. Dr.)  
Trbs.  
f Bar., W. W., mf  
St. Bass (Perc.)  
Hns., Trbs.

Cls., Cors. (muted)  
(2. + 3.)  
f W. W.  
Low Brass  
f Add Timp.

38 High W. W. + Xylo.  
Sax., Hns., Bar. Cors. (open)  
Hn. 3-4 f Tpts. (open)  
ff Hn., Bar., T. Sax. Cors.  
Trbs. f

W. W., Xylo.

Tutti  
W. W.  
*ff*  
Brass  
*fff*

Cors.  
Trbs., Bar.  
W. Blk.

[50] Tempo di Tarantella (d.=152)

Trbs., Cls.  
Add Hns.  
(Hns. out)  
Hns.  
(T. Sax.)  
Trb., Cl.  
(+ Perc.)

Perc.: Sn. Dr., Tamb.

F1. 8va  
Ob., A. Sax., Tpts.

[54]

[62] (Tpt. 1, High W. W.)

(Cl.s.)  
Add Cors.  
(Cors. out)

Add Cors., Cl.  
Cym.  
ff  
Tutti  
f  
Trbs.  
Bass  
*f*

Tutti

Cym. x. ff

Tamb.

Sn. Dr.

W. W. ff

Timp.

ff

W. W. ff

Timp.

79 L'istesso tempo ( $\text{d} = \text{d}$ )

Cors. 1, 2

Tamb.

81 Slow ( $\text{d} = \text{d}$ ) in 12 Tempo di Hasapiko

Pattern should sound identical to preceding 8 measures

(Cors. 1, 2)

Non-players clap (+ Tamb.) *mf*

Bar., Low W. W.

*f* Bass

(Cors. 1, 2)

Clap (Tamb.)

accel. poco a poco

cresc.

(in slow 3)

Add Trbs. 1, 2

Add Tpts.

(accel.)

Add Trb. 3

Add Cor. 3

$\frac{2}{4}$



High W. W.

Cors., Tpts.  
Add Bar.  
Trbs. (afterbeats)  
Hns., Bar.

etc.

tr

Trbs.

(8va)

Hn.  
Trbs.

Tutti  
Timp.

sfz

[141] Suddenly slow-Tempo di Blues ( $\text{♩} = 64-72$ )  
(*everything sotto voce*)  
Hns., Saxes.

All Cls. unis.

Brush on Cym.  
low W. W., Bass  
p

[145] Cls. unis. (espr.)

p  
(Cym. cont.)  
Trbs., Hns.  
low Inst.

3

[149]

Cym.  
3 Hn., Trb.  
mfp

3

Add Saxes.

(Saxes. out)

Cl. (unis.) 3  
Hns., Trbs., Low W. W.  
(+ Cym.)

3 (Cl.) 5 Cym. x pp Sn. Dr.  
mp Trbs., Hns. only (cue Bass)

[154] Tempo di Jig (Moderate 2)  $\text{♩} = 136$

[158]

Cors., Tpts., A. Sax., Fls. (8va)

Low Cls., Saxes., Bsns.

(mp) mfp Trbs.  
mf (+ Perc.)

Hns. Trbs. mfp

[168]

Add Cls., Ob., Bells

Trbs.

(Hns. rhythm)

ff

Hns. ff f

178

Tpts., W. W.

Cor.

**ff**

Tutti

**f**

Add Timp.

Tempo di Hora (Bright 2)  $\text{d} = 148$

186

All W. W. (8va) (except Cls.)

Clz., Hns., Trbs.

**ff**

Trbs. only

Add Timp.

Low Inst. (+ Perc.)

**f** (St. Bass out)

(c Tpts.)

Hns.

**ff**

196

Add Cls.

All W. W.

Hns.

Trbs.

**ff** (Bar. sust.)

3

Low Inst.

+ Timp.

1.

2. W. W.

Trbs., Hns.

Basses, etc.

W. W.

Trbs., Hns.

Basses, etc.

**210**

tr

1 Cor. 1  
1 Cor. 2 *a la Mariachi*

(2 Cors.)

All Hns.  
(+ Maracas)

**218**

Tempo di Zapateado (Solid 2)  $\text{♩} = 128$

6

Trbs., Bar.

Low W. W. Bass

+ Perc. (Maracas, Castanets, Cowbell)

**218**

ff

Add Hns.

**226**

All Cors. + Tpts.

Trbs. Hns. Bar.

Bass

**226**

f

f

Add Sn. Dr., Guiro, Timbales

Cors., Tpts.

Trbs., Hns.

Bar., Bass (Perc.)

(ind. Voices alternate rests)

Cors., Tpts.

Hns., Trbs.

Bar., Bass (Perc.)

Cors., Tpts.

Add Xylo.

Hns., Trbs.

Bar., Bass (Perc.)

242 Cors., Tpts. (Xylo.) (Xylo.) 3 + 2 or long 1 (despite bass line)

ff

Hns., Trbs.

All Brass (+ Perc.)

Bar., Bass (Perc.)

249 Tempo di Rock (Driving 2)  $\text{d} = 144$

Cym. Sn.

fff

All W. W. (+ 8va)

Cym. Sn.

fff

fff Low Inst.

Fls., Cls.

High Dr. Low Dr. Tpts.

Timbales ff

257 Fls., Cls., Tpts.  
 Hns. ff  
 Trbs., Saxes.  
 Bar., Bass  
*f* Perc. cont.

High Dr. Low Dr.  
 Timb. (Perc.)

Add Cors. 1 + 2  
 273 (Hns.)  
*f* (+ Perc.)

*molto rall.* - - - - -  
 (+ 8va) Fl., Cls. 8va  
 (Voices drop out)

282 Slow (Tempo 1) ( $\text{d}=68$ )  
 1 A. Sax. + 1 Fl. (8va)

mp  
*p* Cl. 1 Hn. 1. Cls. 2, 3  
 Bell Cl. rall. Soli (Cl. 2, 3)  
*p* (c Hns. + Bar.)  
 Low W. W. (c. Bass)

287 Tempo di Rock ( $\text{d}=144$ )

Hns.  
Sn. Dr.  
etc.  
Trbs.  
Add Perc.  
Bar., low W.W. ***pp***  
***cresc.***

299 Brass

Add Cor. 2 + Tpts.  
Add Cor. 1  
***cresc.***  
***ff*** (+ Timp.)  
***w. w.***

Hns., Trbs.  
***fff***

309 Slightly faster (*conduct ad lib.*)

Hns., Trbs.  
Hns.  
Low Inst.  
***fff***

***fp***  
***sfp***

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