JOHNNY APPLESED SUITE

(I. Johnny's Planting Song II. Johnny's Prayer III. Johnny's Hoedown)

By Robert Kerr

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5
Piano Accompaniment	1 '

Johnny Appleseed Suite

American history is filled with marvelous stories and legends, which can leave lasting images in our minds. I was probably five or six years old when I first heard about Johnny Appleseed. I remember hearing how Johnny wore a huge cooking pot with the handle turned backward upon his head, and, with a big leather bag of apple seeds strapped to his waist, he happily traveled the countryside planting his beloved apple trees! To this day, that image of Johnny Appleseed has stuck in my mind and has served as my working source of inspiration for this piece.

The suite is divided into three movements:

- I. Johnny's Planting Song—This is what Johnny sings or hums to himself as he travels along, happily planting his apple seeds.
- Johnny's Prayer—This is what Johnny always asks each night before going to sleep under the open sky, weary from his daily labor. He always prays that God will bless his apple trees and allow them to thrive.
- **III. Johnny's Hoedown**—This is the joy Johnny feels every day as he sets out fresh, with renewed determination to live his purpose.



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