# A PERCY GRAINGER SUITE

PERCY GRAINGER
Arranged by FRANK ERICKSON

#### INSTRUMENTATION

- I Full Score
- 8 Flute/Piccolo
- I Ist Oboe
- I 2nd Oboe
- 4 Ist B Clarinet
- 4 2nd B Clarinet
- 4 3rd B Clarinet
- 2 El Alto Clarinet/
  - E Contrabass Clarinet
- 2 B Bass Clarinet/
  - BB Contrabass Clarinet
- 2 Bassoon
- 2 Ist E Alto Saxophone
- 2 2nd E Alto Saxophone
- 2 B Tenor Saxophone
- I E Baritone Saxophone
- 3 Ist B Trumpet
- 3 2nd B Trumpet
- 3 3rd By Trumpet

- 2 Ist F Horn
- I 2nd F Horn
- I 3rd F Horn
- 2 Ist Trombone
- 2 2nd Trombone
- 2 3rd Trombone
- 2 Baritone T.C.
- 2 Baritone B.C.
  - Tuba
- I Mallets

(Xylophone, Bells)

- I Timpani
- 2 Percussion I

(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

2 Percussion II

(Crash Cymbals, Triangle,

Tambourine)

# Frank Erickson Publications



#### **About the Composer**

Percy Aldridge Grainger was born in Brighton, Australia in 1882, lived more than half his life in the United States and died in White Plains, New York in 1961. There is no doubt that he was one of the most dynamic and original musical personalities of our time. To him, music was "the art of the common man" and should be enjoyed as a normal and broadening experience of daily life. Grainger's interest in the "democratization" of music was evident from the beginning of his career. He was a brilliant pianist, but instead of devoting his full time to concertizing, he also became involved in collecting and reworking folk music, a passion which continued throughout his life. Edward Grieg said of him, "He has the true folksong poetry in him." His enormous influence on the modern concert band is illustrated by the popularity of his compositions and arrangements such as Lincolnshire Posey, Children's March, and Irish Tune from County Derry.

### **About the Composition**

COUNTRY GARDENS - Typical of Grainger's humor and literary style is this remark included in an early publication of this piece: "Rough sketched for 2 whistlers and a few instruments about 1908." In another edition he writes: "In some parts of England, groups of countryside dancersteams of Morris Men - decked out with ribbons and jingling bells, still dance the Morris Dance to the accompaniment of such tunes as Shepherd's Hey and Country Gardens."

IRISH TUNE FROM COUNTY DERRY - Here are some of Grainger's words about this melody: "For the following beautiful melody I have to express my very grateful acknowledgment to Miss J. Ross who has made a large collection of the popular unpublished melodies of the County of Londonderry, which she has very kindly placed at my disposal. The name of the tune unfortunately was not ascertained by Miss Ross, who sent it to me with the simple remark that it was 'very old', in correctness of which statement I have no hesitation in expressing perfect concurrence."

MOLLY ON THE SHORE - A few of Grainger's annotations concerning this arrangement: "Birthday gift, Mother, 3.7.'07. Originally set for string four-some or string band (summer 1907). Also set for symphony orchestra, theatre orchestra, and violin and piano (early 1914)."

## Rehearsal Suggestions

COUNTRY GARDENS - Except for the slurred passages, all notes should be separated, but not excessively so. The accents should be closely observed.

IRISH TUNE FROM COUNTY DERRY - As indicated by the metronomic marking, the tempo can be quite free. Although the melody should predominate and is marked one dynamic level higher, the other parts, particularly those with moving lines, are important and should not be held back. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trumpers have the option of playing the lower octave in measure 25-26.

MOLLY ON THE SHORE - Unless otherwise marked, all quarter notes should be held their full value and eighth notes are short. The triangle and tambourine are added for color and their sound should not predominate.

by Percy Grainger (1882-1961)

**Full Score** Arr. by Frank Erickson I. Country Gardens **Duration 4:30** Fairly fast and with a leisurely swing (3 = about 70)**Flute** Piccolo Oboe **B**b Clarinet Eb Alto Clarinet-Eb Contrabass Clarinet **Bb** Bass Clarinet-**BB** Contrabass Clarinet Bassoon Eb Alto Saxophone Bb Tenor Saxophone Eb Baritone Saxophone Fairly fast and with a leisurely swing ( = about 70) **B**b Trumpet 23 F Horn 1 **Trombone Baritone** Tuba **Mallets** Timpani Triangle, Tambourine, Cymbals **Percussion Snare Drum Bass Drum** 

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