

New River Gorge

A rugged, white-water river flowing northward through deep canyons, the New River is among the oldest rivers on the continent. Construction on the New River Gorge Bridge was completed in 1977. This steel bridge, near Fayetteville, was the longest arch bridge in the world for many years (it now is ranked third) and has become a symbol of West Virginia. Visitors to New River Gorge can enjoy white-water rafting, zip-line tours, hiking, and horseback riding while viewing the stunning natural beauty of the gorge.

Moderately, broadly

Martha Mier

mp

mf

5

8

12

poco rit.

mp

mf

8va

8va

An Appalachian Ballad

The people of the Appalachian Mountains are songwriters and storytellers. Traditional Appalachian ballads were songs that told a story and were based mostly on the ballads and folk dance tunes brought to the area by Anglo-Celtic immigrants. These ballads often included tragic stories about a lost love or an unsolved mystery. Lives, emotions, loves, and fears were found in ballads, echoing people's triumphs and sorrows.

Martha Mier

Moderately, with tenderness

4

7

10

mp

mf

mp

poco rit.

a tempo

p

mp

Fiddler's Tune

The fiddle was the lead instrument in mountain dance music and a good fiddler was a prize in any early West Virginia settlement. As fiddlers played dance tunes influenced by Anglo-Celtic immigrants, the people danced. Clogging was the social dance in the Appalachian Mountains as early as the 18th century. Later, dances such as flat-footing, foot-stomping, buck dancing, and jigging evolved. Today, traditional fiddle tunes still thrive in the remote regions of West Virginia and are considered a national treasure.

Fast, raucously

Martha Mier

First system of musical notation (measures 1-4). The piece is in 4/4 time. The left hand (LH) plays a series of chords and single notes, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The right hand (RH) plays a melodic line with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1 and 5. The tempo is marked 'Fast, raucously'.

Second system of musical notation (measures 5-8). Measure 5 is marked with a box containing the number 5. The left hand (LH) continues with a steady bass line. The right hand (RH) plays a melodic line with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1 and 5. The tempo is marked 'Fast, raucously'.

Third system of musical notation (measures 9-12). Measure 9 is marked with a box containing the number 9. The left hand (LH) continues with a steady bass line. The right hand (RH) plays a melodic line with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1, 2, 3, and 5. The tempo is marked 'Fast, raucously'.

Fourth system of musical notation (measures 13-16). Measure 13 is marked with a box containing the number 13. The left hand (LH) continues with a steady bass line. The right hand (RH) plays a melodic line with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1, 2, 3, and 5. The tempo is marked 'Fast, raucously'.