Children’s March
(Over the Hills and Far Away)

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER
Arranged by DOUGLAS E. WAGNER (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor

3 1st C Flute
3 2nd C Flute
2 Oboe
3 1st B♭ Clarinet
3 2nd B♭ Clarinet
3 3rd B♭ Clarinet
1 Eb Alto Clarinet
2 B♭ Bass Clarinet
2 Bassoon
2 1st Eb Alto Saxophone
2 2nd Eb Alto Saxophone
2 B♭ Tenor Saxophone
1 Eb Baritone Saxophone

3 1st B♭ Trumpet
3 2nd B♭ Trumpet
3 3rd B♭ Trumpet
2 1st Horn in F
2 2nd Horn in F
2 1st Trombone
2 2nd Trombone
2 Baritone
1 Baritone Treble Clef
2 Tuba
1 Timpani
3 Percussion I
(Tambourine, Gong, Wood Block, Castanets)
2 Percussion II
(Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals)
2 Percussion III
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

SUPPLEMENTAL AND WORLD PARTS
Available for download from www.alfred.com/worldparts

1st Horn in E♭
2nd Horn in E♭
1st Trombone Treble Clef
2nd Trombone Treble Clef
Tuba in B♭ Treble Clef
Tuba in Eb Treble Clef

PROGRAM NOTES

Composed and scored over a three-year period (1916-1919), Percy Grainger’s Children’s March represents a departure from march fare of the time. Its playful compound duplet-meter, engagingly buoyant themes, and extensive use of the tonal colors of the low winds set it apart as pure Grainger at his innovative best.

The work is interestingly inscribed “For my playmate beyond the hills,” who was in all likelihood Karen Holten. After being introduced, she and Grainger developed a relationship, mostly by mail. They probably would have married had it not been for his mother’s overbearing and possessive personality.

As was the case with many of his works, Grainger also made a two-piano (four-hand) version of Children’s March as well as an excerpted arrangement for solo piano.

This is an abridged concert band arrangement prepared from Grainger’s original edition, preserving the integrity of the work while maximizing its practicality. The many note, articulation, and dynamic incongruities have been sorted out and the scoring has been reinforced, making the work highly playable and accessible.