

Three American Sketches

I. Frog Went A-Courtin', II. Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies, **III. Sweet Betsy From Pike**

> **TRADITIONAL** Arranged by MICHAEL STORY (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor
- Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 2 Bassoon
- 4 1st B Clarinet
- 4 2nd B Clarinet
- 2 B Bass Clarinet
- 5 El Alto Saxophone
- 2 Bl-Tenor Saxophone
- 2 El Baritone Saxophone

- 1st B♭Trumpet
- 2nd B Trumpet
- 4 Horn in F
- **Trombone**
- 2 Baritone
- 2 Baritone Treble Clef
- Tuba
- Mallet Percussion (Bells)
- Timpani
- 2 Percussion I (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
- Percussion II
 - Triangle, Tambourine, Crash Cymbals, uspended Cymbal)

WORLD PARTS

- Horn in E
- Trombone in B_b Bass Clef
- Trombone in Bi Treble Clef
- Baritone in Bb Bass Clef
- Tuba in El Bass Clef
- Tuba in E, Treble Clef
- Tuba in B_b Bass Clef
- Tuba in B, Treble Clef

PROGRAM NOTES

Three American Sketches is a trilogy of American folk melodies. The origin of "Frog Went A-Courtin" can be traced back 450 years to a Scottish song titled "The Frog Came to the Myl Dur." There have been dozens of variations on the theme of the frog's courtship; however, the version most known today was probably written in the southern Appalachians during the 1800s. "Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies" has had at least two different melodies: one in a major mode in 4/4 time and the other a much more expressive tune in minor and in 3/4. The second one is the source for this arrangement. Another popular folk song, "John Riley," uses the exact expressive melody. Ironically,"Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies" tells a tale of lost love; "John Riley" tells of true love found. "Sweet Betsy From Pike" was written in 1847 during the great western expansion. It tells of a young couple that traveled west to California during the 1840s, and it only briefly mentions the many hardships that were endured during this period.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

"Frog Went A-Courtin" should be played in a light, detached manner. Careful attention to all marked articulations will help ensure a musical performance. "Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies" contains a lyrical baritone solo that is cued in the tenor sax and trombone parts. The two short trumpet solos may be played either by one player or by the whole section. Proper phrasing is critical. There should be a general feeling of crescendo throughout "Sweet Betsy From Pike." You may want to conduct this piece in "one," with a dotted half in the 54-60 bpm range. As always, the marked tempos are only a guide. Please feel free to adjust as needed. I hope you and your ensemble find Three American Sketches to be a rewarding musical experience.





THREE AMERICAN SKETCHES















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II. Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies



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III. Sweet Betsy from Pike





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