



# Variant on an Old English Carol

TRADITIONAL

Arranged by ROBERT W. SMITH (ASCAP)

## INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor
- 8 1st Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 Optional 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 Bass

## PROGRAM NOTES

**VARIANT ON AN OLD ENGLISH CAROL** is a very contemporary setting of the traditional melody known as "What Child Is This" or "Greensleeves." This arrangement was written for the developing ensemble as a musical vehicle for their "never-ending" source of energy!

## NOTE TO CONDUCTOR

This opening statement should be as energetic as possible. Care should be given to note lengths in the ostinato figures to ensure an energetic interaction among the parts.

The first statement of the melody at 9 should be as smooth as possible. The ostinato above should maintain the energy of the introduction. Care should be given to the balance of the total orchestra at 33. I suggest using this section of the piece as a teaching tool to introduce or reinforce the concept of melody and the supportive roles the other lines must assume at this point.

Measure 49 should almost float in a cut time feel with the absence of the ostinato in the first violin. The entrance at 67 should be twice as energetic by comparison.

I hope that you and your orchestra find the **VARIANT ON AN OLD ENGLISH CAROL** to be a rewarding experience. Best wishes for a great performance! Happy Holidays!

*Robert W. Smith*

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# VARIANT ON AN OLD ENGLISH CAROL

CONDUCTOR

TRADITIONAL

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Lively  $\text{♩} = 144$

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

String Bass

*f* 1 2 3 4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

5 6 7 8 *ff*

9

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*mf* 9 10 11 12

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Cello  
 Str. Bass

13 14 15 16

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Cello  
 Str. Bass

17 18 19 20

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Cello  
 Str. Bass

21 22 23 24

25

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

25 26 27 28

Vln. 1 *ff*

Vln. 2 *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Cello *ff*

Str. Bass *ff*

29 30 31 32

33

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass *mf*

33 34 35 36

Violin 1

Violin 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

37 38 39 40

Violin 1

Violin 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

41 42 43 44

Violin 1

Violin 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

45 46 47 48

*ff*

49

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass *mf*

49 50 51 52

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

53 54 55 56

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

57 58 59 60



Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Cello  
 Str. Bass

61 62 63 64

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Cello  
 Str. Bass

65 66 67 68

Vln. 1  
 Vln. 2  
 Vla.  
 Cello  
 Str. Bass

69 70 71 72



75 div.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

73 74 75 76

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

77 78 79 80

unis. div. unis.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

81 82 83 84

*ff*