Fantasy on an English Carol

The Holly and The Ivy

TRADITIONAL
Arranged by MICHAEL STORY (ASCAP)

- INSTRUMENTATION

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

PROGRAM NOTES

The Holly and The Ivy is one of a number of medieval English carols mentioning the relationship and rivalry between the masculine holly and feminine ivy vying for mastering in the forest. The song is an unusual integration of pagan tradition and religious sentiment, and the words most likely derive from an ancient fertility dance. The melody was probably written around 1700 in the Gloucestershire region of England.







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