

RWS DEVELOPING BAND SERIES

Grade: 2.5

Conductor Score: RWS-2558-01

# Variations On A Childhood Melody

(for Solo Clarinet and Band)

Clifton Taylor

**RWS**  
DEVELOPING BAND SERIES

**RWS** MUSIC  
COMPANY

# Variations On A Childhood Melody

(for Solo Clarinet and Band)

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## INSTRUMENTATION

|                                          |    |                                                                                   |   |
|------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Conductor Score .....                    | 1  | B $\flat$ Trumpet 1 .....                                                         | 5 |
| Solo B $\flat$ Clarinet (Advanced) ..... | 1  | B $\flat$ Trumpet 2 .....                                                         | 5 |
| Solo B $\flat$ Clarinet (Medium) .....   | 1  | F Horn .....                                                                      | 4 |
| Flute .....                              | 10 | Trombone .....                                                                    | 6 |
| Oboe .....                               | 2  | Euphonium B.C. ....                                                               | 2 |
| B $\flat$ Clarinet 1 .....               | 6  | Euphonium T.C. ....                                                               | 2 |
| B $\flat$ Clarinet 2 .....               | 6  | Tuba .....                                                                        | 4 |
| B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet .....            | 2  | Mallet Percussion: Bells, Xylophone .....                                         | 2 |
| Bassoon .....                            | 2  | Timpani .....                                                                     | 1 |
| E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone .....           | 6  | Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum .....                                         | 3 |
| B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone .....          | 2  | Percussion 2: Crash Cymbals, Suspended Cymbal,<br>Ride Cymbal, Sleigh Bells ..... | 2 |
| E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone .....       | 2  | Percussion 3: Triangle, Wood Block .....                                          | 2 |

## PROGRAM NOTE

The French folk song, *Ah, vous dirai-je, Maman*, has been used as the melody for various children's songs, including *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*, *Baa, Baa, Black Sheep*, and the *Alphabet Song*. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart published a set of piano variations based on the tune in 1785, so some have mistakenly attributed its composition to him. However, the origin of the tune is unknown. *Variations on a Childhood Melody* was conceived as a showpiece for an advanced soloist with an accompaniment accessible by a middle school ensemble.

## NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

Two versions of the solo part have been provided, and soloists can make a hybrid "medium-advanced" part by drawing material from both versions. Except for the final allegro measures, the piece moves at an unvarying tempo. Marked dynamics should be used as a guide but must be adjusted softer if necessary to ensure the soloist is always heard.

I hope you and your ensemble enjoy working on this piece. Please visit my composer page at [rwsmusic.com](http://rwsmusic.com) to connect!



## ABOUT THE COMPOSER



**Dr. Clifton Taylor** has served as Associate Director of Bands at Mississippi State University since 2005. At MSU, he co-directs the Famous Maroon Band and basketball pep bands, conducts the MSU Symphonic Band and the Jazz Ensembles, and teaches courses in the Department of Music. A native of Mississippi, he holds two music education degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a DMA in wind conducting from the University of South Carolina.

A veteran teacher, Dr. Taylor has taught instrumental music at every level, from the elementary school to the community college, and currently directs the band program for the Starkville Homeschool Music Cooperative.

Dr. Taylor is regularly engaged in composing and arranging for concert band, marching band, and other media. He arranges many of the pieces performed by the Famous Maroon Band, and he has served as the wind arranger for the Mississippi Lions All State Band since 2014. His original concert band works are published by Grand Mesa Music Publishers, TapSpace Publications, RWS Music Company, Claude T. Smith Publications, and Maroon Tune Publications. He is also the composer and publisher of Honor Band Sight Reading Etudes, a two-volume set of 130 etudes written for all-district and all-state auditions in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida.

Dr. Taylor performs as a trombonist in symphonic, chamber, and jazz settings and has served as the principal trombonist of the Meridian (MS) Symphony since 2002. He is affiliated with the College Band Directors National Association; the National Band Association; the Mississippi Bandmasters Association; Phi Beta Mu; Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia; Kappa Kappa Psi; and the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers.



# VARIATIONS ON A CHILDHOOD MELODY

### Clifton Taylor (ASCAP)

**RWS-2558-00**

**Stately** ♩ = 96

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**Solo B♭ Clarinet (Advanced)**

**Solo B♭ Clarinet (Medium)**

**Flute**

**Oboe**

**B♭ Clarinet 1**

**B♭ Clarinet 2**

**B♭ Bass Clarinet**

**Bassoon**

**E♭ Alto Saxophone**

**B♭ Tenor Saxophone**

**E♭ Baritone Saxophone**

**B♭ Trumpet 1**

**B♭ Trumpet 2**

**F Horn**

**Trombone**

**Euphonium B.C.**

**Tuba**

**Mallet Percussion**  
Bells  
Xylophone

**Timpani**  
F, B, D

**Percussion 1**  
Snare Drum  
Bass Drum

**Percussion 2**  
Crash Cymbals  
Suspended Cymbal  
Ride Cymbal  
Sleigh Bells

**Percussion 3**  
Triangle  
Wood Block

**Stately** ♩ = 96

**Dynamic markings:** *f*, *fp*, *p*, *div.*, *S.D.*, *B.D.*, *Cr. Cym.*, *Sus. Cym.*

- 4 -

**12 Theme**

S. Clar. (Adv.) *mf*

S. Clar. (Med.) *mf*

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Clar. 1 *mp* *p*

Clar. 2 *mp* *p*

B. Cl. *mp* *p*

Bsn. *mp* *p*

A. Sax *p* *div.* *a2*

T. Sax *mp* *p*

B. Sax *mp* *p*

**12 Theme**

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn. *mp*

Tbn. *mp*

Euph. B.C. *mp*

Tuba *mp* *One player*

Mlt. *mp*

Timp. *mp*

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2 *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Perc. 3 *Tri.*

12 13 *mp* 14 15 16 17 18

- 6 -

28 Variation I

S. Clar. (Adv.)

S. Clar. (Med.)

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Tri.

WB.

mf

mp

p

f

25 26 27 28 29 30

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32 36

S. Clar. (Adv.)

S. Clar. (Med.)

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

32 36

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Bells

Sleigh Bells

F to G

37 32 33 34 35 36

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40

S. Clar. (Adv.)

S. Clar. (Med.)

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

43 44 45 46 47 48

To brushes

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Soprano Clarinet (Advanced and Mediant), Flute, Oboe, Clarinets 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpets 1 and 2, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium/Bass Trombone, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Mallets, Timpani, and three Percussion parts. Measures 43 to 48 are shown. Measure 48 includes the instruction 'To brushes' for Percussion 1.

50 Variation II Swing ♩ =  $\frac{3}{4}$

54

S. Clar. (Adv.)

S. Clar. (Med.)

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xylophone

Brushes

Stop time style (Dampen at all rests)

Snare stick on ride cymbal

W.B.

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58

S. Clar. (Adv.)

S. Clar. (Med.)

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

58

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

choke

55 56 57 58 59 60

The musical score is for a piece titled 'Variations on a Childhood Melody'. It covers measures 55 through 60. The instrumentation includes:
 

- Woodwinds: Soprano Clarinet (Advanced and Medium), Flute, Oboe, Clarinet 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone.
- Brass: Trumpet 1 and 2, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium/Bass Trombone, and Tuba.
- Percussion: Mallets, Timpani, and three different Percussion parts (1, 2, and 3).

 The score features various musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings. A specific instruction 'choke' is noted for Percussion 2 in measure 58. The page is marked with a large red 'Preview Only' watermark.

- 13 -



74

S. Clar. (Adv.)

S. Clar. (Med.)

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

74

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

*f*

*f*

*f*

Cr. Cym.

div.

a2

- 16 -

- 17 -

92

**Allegro (on cue)** ♩=126

[illegible]

*rit.*

S. Clar. (Adv.)

S. Clar. (Med.)

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

*rit.*

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Xylo.

Bells

Timp.

dampen

Perc. 1

Sus Cym. w/stick and choke

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

98 99 100 101 102