



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
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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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CONDUCTOR

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Lively J = 144

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

String Bass

f

1 2 3 4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

5 6 7 8

9

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mf

9 10 11 12