

Variants

for Flute & Guitar, String Quartet, Piano

by
Karen Amrhein

Variants

The *Variants* were composed at the request of flutist Michael Finegold and guitarist Oscar Lopez Plaza. The request was made during recording sessions in Bratislava, Slovakia for my *Hamilton Street Concerto*, and four other works, in the spring of 2003. This arrangement dates from October 2007.

The six Variants are intended to link almost seamlessly, though there is a short pause before and after *Variant 4* — a variation itself of the *Danse Rêve* from my *String Quartet No. 2*. Each variant is, essentially, a theme and variations unto itself, however material from one variant may be developed further in another. The first three variants are generally bright and cheerful in character, the exceptions being the middle section (for strings alone) of *Variant 2*: an aggressive and dissonant episode, and the lyrical opening of *Variant 3*. *Variant 5* is a fugue in Dorian mode wherein the outer statements of the subject frame a songlike passacaglia. The fugue is immediately followed by the final variant — an unabashedly joyous romp. The piece is about eleven minutes in length.

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Instrumentation

Flute solo
Guitar solo

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello

Piano

All instruments are written at pitch, except guitar sounds down one octave.
 $\text{♪}=\text{♪}$ throughout each tempo region.

Variants

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Karen Amrhein (ASCAP)

I $\text{♩} = 80$

Flute: *espress.* $mp \rightarrow mf \rightarrow mp \rightarrow f$

Guitar: mp

Violin 1: *pizz.* $mf \rightarrow mp \rightarrow mf$

Violin 2: $mf \rightarrow mp \rightarrow mf$

Viola: *pizz.* $mf \rightarrow mp \rightarrow mf$

Cello: *pizz.* $mf \rightarrow mp \rightarrow mf$

Piano: $mp \rightarrow p \rightarrow mp$



5

Fl. $mf \rightarrow mp$

Gtr. $f \rightarrow mp$

Vn. 1: mute

Vn. 2: mute

Vla.: mute

Vc.: mute

F 2

Fl. 37 mp express.

Gtr. 8 mp express.

Vn. 1 arco pp

Vn. 2 arco pp

Vla. arco pp

Vc. pp



G $\text{♩} = 138$

Fl. 45

Gtr. 8

Vn. 1 ff

Vn. 2 ff

Vla. ff

Vc. ff

Vn. 1 ff

Vn. 2 ff

Vla. ff

Vc. ff

53

(H)

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

=

60

(I) $\downarrow = 60$

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

=

J 3 $\downarrow = 80$ *poco accel.* *rall.* *a tempo*

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Fl. 84 K $\text{♩} = 120$

Gtr.

Vn. 1
Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

二

Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 131, section Q. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Guitar (Gtr.), Violin 1 (Vn. 1), Violin 2 (Vn. 2), Cello (Vcl.), and Bass (B.). The key signature is one sharp, and the tempo is 76. The score shows various musical markings such as dynamic levels (e.g., *p*, *pp*, *pizz.*) and performance instructions (e.g., *espress.*, *pp espress.*). The piano part is shown at the bottom of the page.

2

141

Fl.

Gtr.

S $\text{♪} = 126$

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

=

146

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

171 (V) 5 ♩ = 126

Fl.

Gtr. 8 *mp*

Vn. 1

Vn. 2 *mf*

Vla.

Vc. arco *mf*

≡

177

(W)

Fl.

Gtr. 8

Vn. 1 *mf*

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

182

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

arco
mf

=

187 X

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mf

193

(Y)

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

=

199

rit. ----- (Z) $\downarrow = 112$

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

240

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

=

(DD) 6 $\downarrow = 138$

245

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

col legno (battuto)

pizz.

mf

250

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

nat.

nat. v

arco col legno

nat.

mp

mp

mp

p

255

Fl.

Gtr.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vla.

Vc.

EE

rit. ----- ♩ = 132

f

v

espress.

f

v

espress.

f

v

p

mf

v

v

v