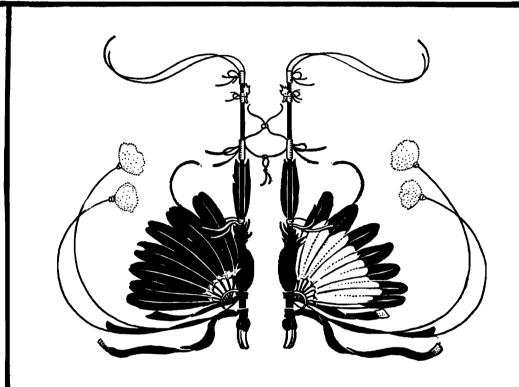
THE WAWAN PRESS



TRADITIONAL ZUNI SONG

ZUÑI LOVER'S WOOING

OR BLANKET SONG

RECORDED AND HARMONIZED BY

CARLOS TROYER

PRICE 60 CENTS

NEWTON-CENTER MASSACHUSETTS

Zuni Lover's Wooing

(or BLANKET SONG.)

Before the opening of the annual spring festivities, it is the custom especially among the graduated braves of a certain age_the sons of the Chiefs and high Priests_to seek for themselves a wife, who must also be a maiden in high standing in the tribe. It is almost incumbent upon a Zuni by the laws of his forefathers, in order to become eligible to the highest positions and honors of the tribe, to be a father, and especially to have male offspring.

The time considered by the Zunis propitious for advancing their addresses is at the approach of, or during, full-moon, and in the silent hours of the night, when the people rest in slumber.

Arrayed in most gorgeous attire, adorned with a handsome headgear of various colored feathers, and profusely decorated with silver ornaments, shells and turquoises, the young brave goes forth to the abode of his love. Every step scintillating with the music of his tarconea and the beating of his snake-rattle filled with corals, he is indeed a delightful and captivating sight to behold. Yet his special pride in the display of his attire he attaches to his handsomely woven blanket, which he wears and gracefully waves in his dance with the object of inducing his beloved to come and take a walk with him, which confirms her actual acceptance of him, as her lover.

He first cautiously approaches the dwelling of his loved one, watching silently for any signs of her presence at home_listening for any strains of song from her lips, or a glimmer of light from the fire upon the roof_ and when reasonably assured of her presence, enters with zeal into his happy song and dance. The coy maiden keeps herself well concealed from his gaze, until she feels more confident of accepting him. If she likes his personality or his blanket, or both, she will, as her first assent, throw him some various colored plumes, an arrow or bear's tooth, as emblems of love, bravery or fearlessness, according to her preference. He is however expected to repeat his song and dance a third time before the maiden decides to accept him or to make her appearance. Failing in the latter, he may as well consider his suit rejected. The language or expression of request in this, as in general in Zunian intercourse is always couched in most polite terms, never commanding or aggressive, but conservative and appealing, the request not being directly stated, but gracefully and poetically implied.

TRADITIONAL ZUNI SONGS.

II. Lover's Wooing









THE WA-WAN PRESS

NEWTON CENTER MASSACHUSETTS

THE OBJECT OF THE MOVEMENT

THE WA-WAN PRESS, at Newton Center, Massachusetts, is an enterprise organized and directly conducted by composers, in the interest of the best American composition. It aims to promote by publication and public hearings, the most progressive, characteristic, and serious works of American composers, known or unknown, and to present compositions based on the melodies of American folk-songs.

Many persons are already aware not only of the resource and promise, but of the increasing ripeness of the composer's art in this country. For these, and all who wish to enjoy the fruits of our undertaking as a whole, and who wish to add the unit of their personal force to the work of building up a musical art that shall represent the highest talents and ideals of American composers, our works are issued quarterly by subscription, to the amount of eighty to one hundred pages per year, at six dollars. This is a liberal reduction from sheet music prices. For artists, teachers, and others who may wish to procure single copies of our compositions, they are also obtainable in this form, at sheet music prices.

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