

A Little Cartoon Music

For Bass Clarinet
and Piano

By James Fry



For Christopher Kendall and the 21st Century Consort

A Little Cartoon Music
— or —
Sketches at an Exhibition

Musical Miniatures Based on Drawings of Saul Steinberg
For Bass Clarinet and Piano
By James Fry

I.	March—April	1:05
II.	16 Horizons	1:05
III.	Birds & Insects	1:05
IV.	Giuseppe Verdi	1:10
V.	Comic Strip	1:20
Total Duration:		5:45

Commissioned by Christopher Kendall and the 21st Century Consort

A Little Cartoon Music reflects the wit and whimsy of the drawings of Saul Steinberg. Any depiction or representation of actual music is strictly intentional. The composer offers sincerest apologies to the fans of Medieval English rounds, Wagner, Rameau, Mussorgsky and Liszt for any musical misappropriation which may have occurred. Seriously... Steinberg used drawing as a way of examining style. *A Little Cartoon Music*, with its “found styles,” does the same.

Reference List of Saul Steinberg Images*:

- *March-April*, cover drawing for The New Yorker, March 26, 1966
- *16 Horizons*, 1972
- *Birds and Insects*, 1945
- *Giuseppe Verdi*, 1964, originally published in the New Yorker, November 7, 1964
- *Comic Strip*, 1958

* from *Saul Steinberg*, by Harold Rosenberg (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1978.)



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March-April

James Fry

Giocoso ♩ = 138

Bass Clarinet in B \flat

Piano

mp sempre *mf* *sim.*

8^{vb} without pedal

7

14

f

8^{vb}

19

mf

8^{vb}

25

(8)

31

(8)

37

f

8^b

43

8^b

51

mf 5 8^{vb}

58

5 8^{vb} 8^{vb}

63

(8) 8^{vb}

68

8^{vb} [1:05]

16 Horizons

Mesto ♩ = 54

Musical score for measures 1-4. The piece is in 3/4 time, marked Mesto (♩ = 54). The right hand (RH) features a melodic line with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic, consisting of half notes and quarter notes, some with slurs. The left hand (LH) provides a harmonic accompaniment with half notes and quarter notes, also marked *pp*. The instruction *una corda with pedal* is written below the LH staff.

Musical score for measures 5-8. The RH continues its melodic line with a *p* (piano) dynamic. The LH accompaniment also features a *p* dynamic. The texture remains consistent with the previous measures.

Musical score for measures 9-13. The RH melodic line concludes with a *ppp* (pianississimo) dynamic. The LH accompaniment is marked *pp*. The piece ends with a final measure in measure 13.

Musical score for measures 14-16. The RH melodic line is marked *ppp* and includes a *without pedal* instruction. The LH accompaniment is marked *ppp*. The piece concludes with a final measure in measure 16. The instruction *(tre corde)* is written below the LH staff.

Birds & Insects

5

Allegretto ♩ = 128

First system of music (measures 1-4). The right hand plays a melody in 4/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 2/4 time signatures, marked *f*. The left hand plays a bass line in 4/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 2/4 time signatures, marked *f*. The left hand is marked *without pedal*. An 8va line is indicated above the right hand.

Second system of music (measures 5-10). The right hand plays a melody in 2/4 time signature, marked *mf*. The left hand plays a bass line in 2/4 time signature, marked *mp*. The left hand is marked *Ped. ** and *sim.*. An 8va line is indicated above the right hand.

Third system of music (measures 11-14). The right hand plays a melody in 4/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 3/4 time signatures, marked *f*. The left hand plays a bass line in 4/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 3/4 time signatures, marked *f*. The left hand is marked *without pedal*. An 8va line is indicated above the right hand.

Fourth system of music (measures 15-18). The right hand plays a melody in 2/4, 2/4, 2/4, and 3/4 time signatures, marked *light pedal*. The left hand plays a bass line in 2/4, 2/4, 2/4, and 3/4 time signatures, marked *light pedal*. An 8va line is indicated above the right hand.

[illegible]

(8)

*Ped. ** *Ped. ** *light pedal*

The musical score for 'The Little Boat' is presented in two systems. The first system consists of two staves, both in 3/4 time. The upper staff features a melody with eighth-note triplets and a final measure marked 'secco'. The lower staff provides a bass line with eighth-note triplets. The second system continues the piece, with the upper staff having a whole rest and the lower staff continuing the bass line with eighth-note triplets. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature changes from 3/4 to 2/4 at the end of the piece.

34

8va

*Ped. ** *sim.*

39

45

8va

f *mp*

50

54

8va

[1:05]

Largo ♩ = 48

Giuseppe Verdi

sub tones

ppp

pp 3

una corda
Hold pedal.

8

♩ = 48 *accel.*

tenuto 6

niente

with pedal

12

♩ = 48

legato

mf

p (murmur)

14

6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

16

6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

18

6 6 6 6

mf

Hold pedal until end.

21

8va (loco)

pp

f

tre corde

Comic Strip

Energetico ♩ = 152

Measures 1-5 of the musical score. The piece is in 2/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Energetico' with a quarter note equal to 152 beats per minute. The score is written for piano with a grand staff. Measures 1-2 are in 2/4 time, and measures 3-5 are in 3/4 time. The first system includes a treble clef staff with a melodic line and a grand staff with a bass line. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). Pedal markings include 'Ped.' and '8vb no pedal'. A repeat sign is present at the end of measure 5.

Measures 6-9 of the musical score. The piece continues in 2/4 and 3/4 time. The second system includes a treble clef staff and a grand staff. Dynamics include *f* (forte). Pedal markings include 'Ped.' and '8vb no pedal'. A repeat sign is present at the end of measure 9.

Measures 10-14 of the musical score. The piece continues in 2/4 and 3/4 time. The third system includes a treble clef staff and a grand staff. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Pedal markings include 'Ped.' and '8vb no pedal'. A repeat sign is present at the end of measure 14.

Measures 15-18 of the musical score. The piece continues in 2/4 and 3/4 time. The fourth system includes a treble clef staff and a grand staff. Dynamics include *f* (forte). Pedal markings include '8vb no pedal'. A repeat sign is present at the end of measure 18.

32

(8)

mf

with pedal

37

f

f

f

without pedal

47

8^{vb} Ped. *

[illegible]

66

mf

mp

71

with pedal

75

f

f

without pedal

79

8vb

88

Ped. sim.

p

8vb

92

(8)

The image shows a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It is written for a piano and voice. The score is in 2/4 time and features a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line. The right-hand melody is characterized by a series of eighth notes, often beamed together, and includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *8va* (octave up). The left-hand bass line provides a steady accompaniment with eighth notes and rests. The vocal line is represented by a single staff with a treble clef, showing the melody and lyrics. The lyrics are "The Rose Tree" and "The Rose Tree". The score is divided into two systems, with the first system containing the first two staves and the second system containing the next two staves. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 in the second system. The score ends with a double bar line and a time signature of 1:20.