

Béla Bartók

Romanian Folk Dances

Arranged for

Organ by

John Zielinski

2020

The Hungarian composer Béla Bartók (1881-1945) spent a significant part of his career collecting, analyzing, and arranging folk songs of Eastern European cultures. He traveled throughout Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, and Bulgaria, recording and notating the songs of local traditions. Many of these songs found their way into his serious compositions. The Romanian Folk Dances were written in 1915. They include a variety of festive and sentimental melodies which Bartok harmonized using ancient modes: Dorian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, and even the so-called Gypsy Scale. Bartok's particular amalgamation of these modes creates an exotic and alluring soundscape that is both poignant and jovial. The Romanian Folk Dances were so popular that the composer arranged them for small orchestra in 1917. It is primarily this later arrangement that I've drawn upon to create an organ transcription, although I have incorporated elements of the original piano version.

This arrangement was prepared for the 2020 Summer Concert of the Lancaster Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. It was premiered on June 11 at St. John's Episcopal Church in Lancaster City, PA.

- John Zielinski, 10/20/2020

Romanian Folk Dances

Sw. String 8', Clarinet 8'
Gr. Principal 8'
Ped. Flute 16', Principal 8'

I. Joc cu bătă

Bela Bartok
arr. John Zielinski

Allegro Moderato

Sw.
mp
Gr.
mf
9
17
3
26
3

33

Musical score for measures 33-39. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The Treble staff features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet of eighth notes in measure 37. The Middle staff provides harmonic accompaniment with chords and some sixteenth-note patterns. The Bass staff has a simple bass line with quarter and eighth notes.

40

Musical score for measures 40-46. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The Treble staff continues the melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, featuring a triplet of eighth notes in measure 44. The Middle staff has chords and sixteenth-note accompaniment. The Bass staff has a bass line with quarter and eighth notes.

47

Musical score for measures 47-52. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The Treble staff has a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet of eighth notes in measure 48. The Middle staff has chords and sixteenth-note accompaniment. The Bass staff has a bass line with quarter and eighth notes. The instruction *poco rit.* appears in measure 50.

II. Brâul

Allegro

53

Musical score for measures 53-59. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The Treble staff has a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a quintuplet of eighth notes in measure 55. The Middle staff has chords and sixteenth-note accompaniment. The Bass staff has a bass line with quarter and eighth notes. The instruction *p* is in measure 53, and *Sw.* is in measure 54. The instruction *rit.* appears in measures 54 and 56, and *tempo* appears in measures 55 and 57.

62 + Fl. 16'

70

78

III. Pe Loc

Andante

Flute 4', Trem.

85

Strings 8' *p*

pp

Flute 4'

92

Musical score for measures 92-97. The piece is in D major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The left hand provides harmonic support with chords in the right hand and sustained chords in the bass line.

98

Musical score for measures 98-104. The right hand continues the melodic development with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The left hand maintains the harmonic structure with chords in the right hand and sustained chords in the bass line.

105

Musical score for measures 105-109. The right hand continues the melodic development with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The left hand maintains the harmonic structure with chords in the right hand and sustained chords in the bass line.

110

Musical score for measures 110-115. The right hand continues the melodic development with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The left hand maintains the harmonic structure with chords in the right hand and sustained chords in the bass line.

117

calando

- Fl. 4' + Fl. 8'

IV. Buciumeana

Solo Violin, or Fl' 8 and Prin 4', trem.

2nd time, increase registration to *mf*

125 **Moderato**

mp

Strings 8'

p

Strings 8'

2nd time, play downbeat in LH and Ped.

2nd time, + Fl. 16'

131

137

2nd time only

V. Poarga Românească

Allegro

143 Sw. Fl 8', 2' (both hands)

Fl. 16, 8

149

154

159 Gr. Prin 8, 4'

Sw.

163

Sw.
Gr.

167

Gr.
Sw.

Gr. + Prin. 2'

172

Gr.
Sw.

178

Gr.
Sw.

182

Musical score for measures 182-186. The score is written for piano, featuring a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 and back to 2/4. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various rests and dynamics.

187 Sw. Cornet

Gr.

3

Musical score for measures 187-190. The score is written for piano, featuring a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 and back to 2/4. The music includes a "Sw. Cornet" section and a "Gr." (Grave) section. There is a triplet of eighth notes in measure 189.

191

3 (Sw.)

Gr.

Musical score for measures 191-194. The score is written for piano, featuring a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 and back to 2/4. The music includes a triplet of eighth notes in measure 191 and a "Sw." (Sostenuto) section in measure 192.

195

Musical score for measures 195-198. The score is written for piano, featuring a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 and back to 2/4. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various rests and dynamics.

Principals and Flutes 8, 4, 2'

VI. Măruntel

Allegro

199

Gr.

f

Sw.

mf

Principals and Flutes 16', 8, 4,

206

sf

Allegro molto

213

add mixtures ³

sempre staccato

220

sempre staccato

227

Musical score for measures 227-233. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Grand Staff (Treble and Bass), and Bass. Measure 227 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The right hand plays eighth-note patterns, including triplets and quintuplets. The left hand plays chords and single notes. Measure 233 ends with a whole note chord.

234

Musical score for measures 234-238. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Grand Staff (Treble and Bass), and Bass. Measure 234 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The right hand continues with eighth-note patterns, including triplets and quintuplets. The left hand plays chords and single notes. Measure 238 ends with a whole note chord.

239

Musical score for measures 239-243. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Grand Staff (Treble and Bass), and Bass. Measure 239 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The right hand continues with eighth-note patterns, including triplets. The left hand plays chords and single notes. Measure 243 ends with a whole note chord.

244

Musical score for measures 244-248. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Grand Staff (Treble and Bass), and Bass. Measure 244 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The right hand continues with eighth-note patterns, including triplets. The left hand plays chords and single notes. Measure 248 ends with a whole note chord.

249

3 3 3 3

5 6

254

+ 16' or 32' reed