

Gayatri Sonata

**for
Viola
and Piano**

Viola part

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि
धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात् ॥

**Bill
Robinson**

Gayatri Sonata

for Viola and Piano

Composed Dec. 27, 2004—May 11, 2005
Arranged from the original cello version July 13, 2007
Duration: about 20 minutes

The middle movement is based on a setting I wrote of the Gayatri Mantra, a sacred mantra in Hinduism from the *Rig Veda*, for six-string violin and baritone in 2002. I ended up using only the melody from that original composition as the main theme. The words in Sanskrit are:

Om Bhur bhuvah svahah
Tat savitur varenyam
Bhargo Devasya dheemahi
Dheeyo yo nah prachodayaat

Any translation is highly approximate, but it is something like; “Oh Divine Beings of all three worlds, we meditate on the glorious splendor of God. May He himself illumine our minds.”

The tempo marking of the first movement, “IWHWIFATBS”, stands for “It won’t hurt when I fall off this barstool”. Notice that this lyric fits the theme...

This sonata, originally for cello and piano, is in memory of my mother, Frances Vanderkooi Robinson Westman, who died in February 2005. She played both the cello and the piano. I also had in mind during the composition two cellists: David Vanderkooi, my uncle, and Jonathan Kramer, of the music department at NCSU.

The premiere performance was by Bonnie Thron, cellist, and Nancy Whelan, pianist, at Duke University in 2010.

The early editions of the score and part were in this legal-size format. In 2022, I made a letter-size edition for score and part, as well as an edition of the viola part specifically for electronic music readers, with the part enlarged and including reduced piano staves.

Bill Robinson

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Gayatri Sonata

Viola

First Movement

[6']

Bill Robinson

IWHWIFATBS

♩ = 76

10

mp

 mf

15

$$f$$
$$mf$$

mp

20

p

cresc. p. a p.

(*mp*)

$$(mf)$$

25

$$(f)$$
$$ff$$

29

34

$$\overline{ff} > mp$$

41

 f

45

$$ff$$

49

$$ff \quad dim.$$

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Gayatri Sonata

2 54

mp *cresc.* *(mf)*

61 *ff* *(mf)*

65 *ff*

71 *ff p*

76 *ff*

82 *mp* *mf* *f* *ff*

87 *ff*

93

98 *ffpp*

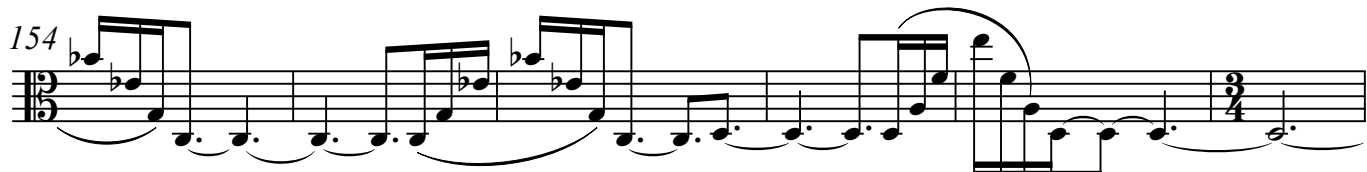
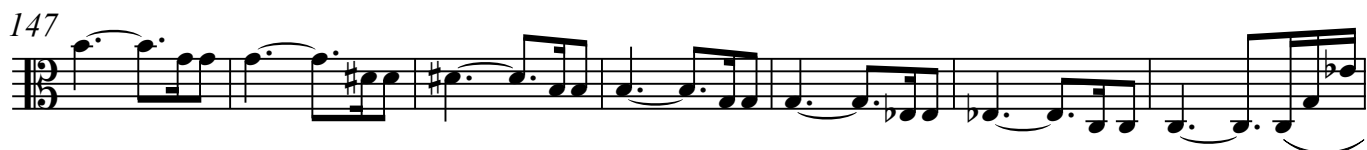
103

109 *mf*

115

121 *mf cresc.* *f*

127 *ff*



♩ = 70

Poco meno mosso



Second Movement: Gayatri Mantra [6'40"]

Om bhur buvah(a) swah(a) tat savitur varenyam, bhargo devasia dimahi, diho yo nah(a) prachodayat

With Devotion

$\text{♩} = 80$

Viola

4

7

10

13

16

19

22

25

29

33

f

mf

mp

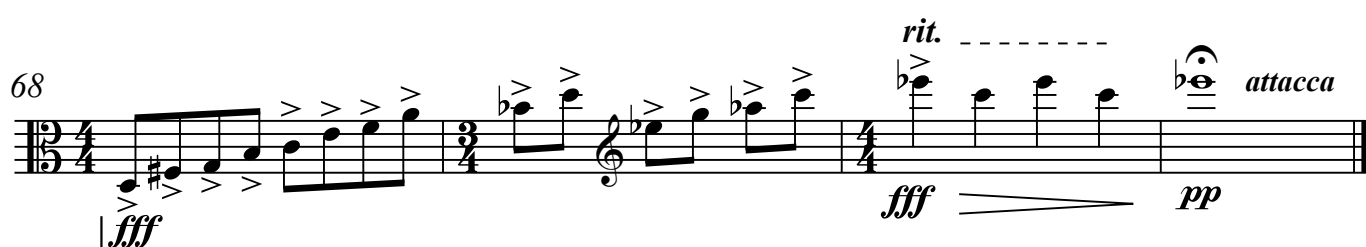
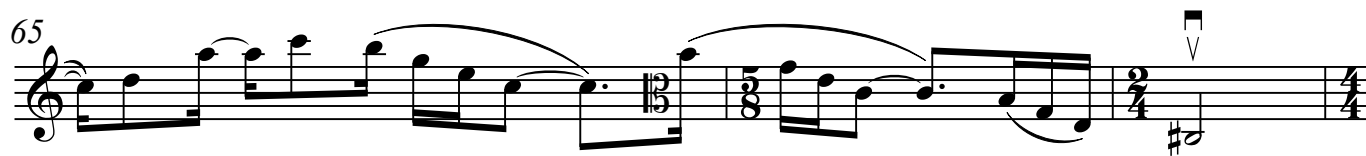
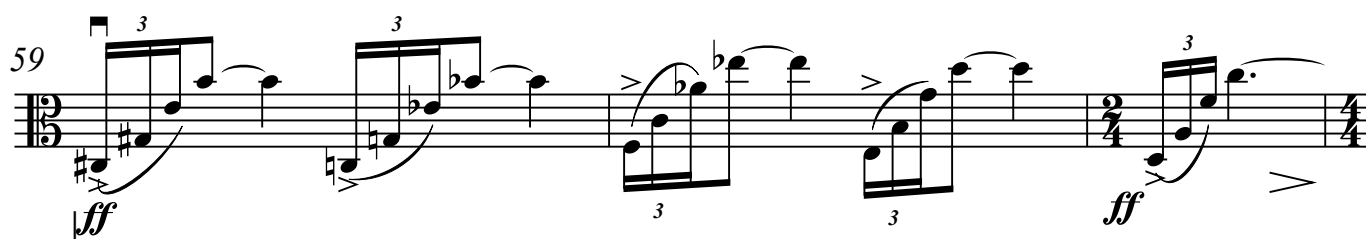
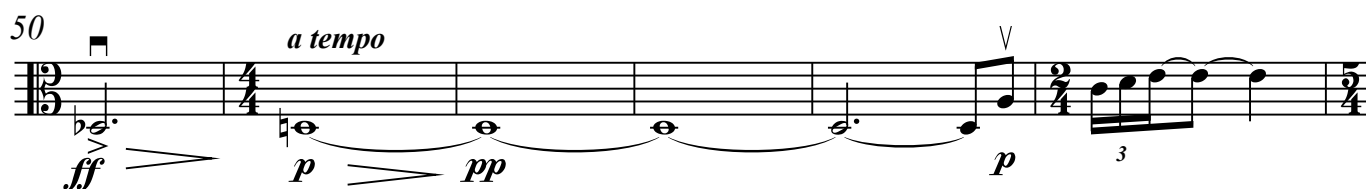
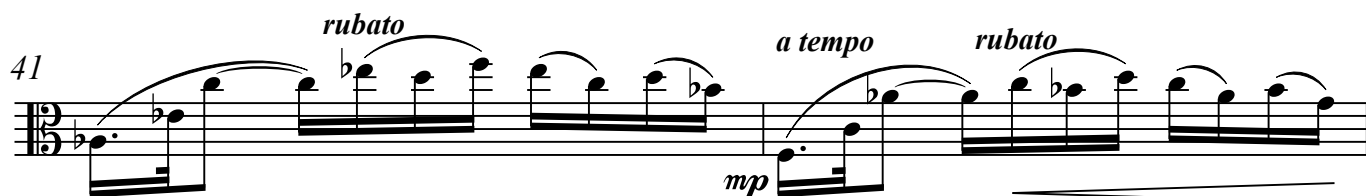
ff

dim. --- (*mf*) ----- *mp*

mf *f* *ff*

Gayatri Sonata

5



 = 80

Git Them Toes To Tappin'



The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as 80 beats per minute. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 4, 7, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 29, 32, and 34 indicated at the start of their respective lines. The dynamics range from *ff* (fortissimo) to *p* (piano). The piece features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The key signature changes to one flat (Bb) at measure 24. The score concludes with a double bar line at measure 34.

4

7

10

13

17

20

24

27

29

32

34

ff

legato

p

cresc. p. a p.

(mp)

(mf)

f

ff

Gayatri Sonata

7

36

39

42

45

47

50

52

54

56

61

67

72

74

ff

pp

pp

ff

p *cresc. p. a p.* (*mp*) (*mf*)

f *ff* *mp*

p *ff*

8

77 *Gayatri Sonata*

80 *legato*
mp

86 *f*

90 *ff*

93 *rubato*
ff $\rightrightarrows$ *p* *rit.*

97 *a tempo*
mp

101

105

109

113

116 *mp* *ff*

This musical score is for the 'Gayatri Sonata'. It consists of ten staves of music, numbered 77 through 116. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature changes throughout the piece: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, and 4/4. The score includes various musical markings such as dynamics (ff, mp, f, p), articulation (legato, rubato, rit.), and phrasing slurs. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and some measures contain rests or longer note values. The overall style is classical and expressive.

119 *mp dolce*

122

126

130 *mp*

134 *f* *ff*

137 *sfz* *sfz*

140

143

146

148

150 (no rit.) *fff*