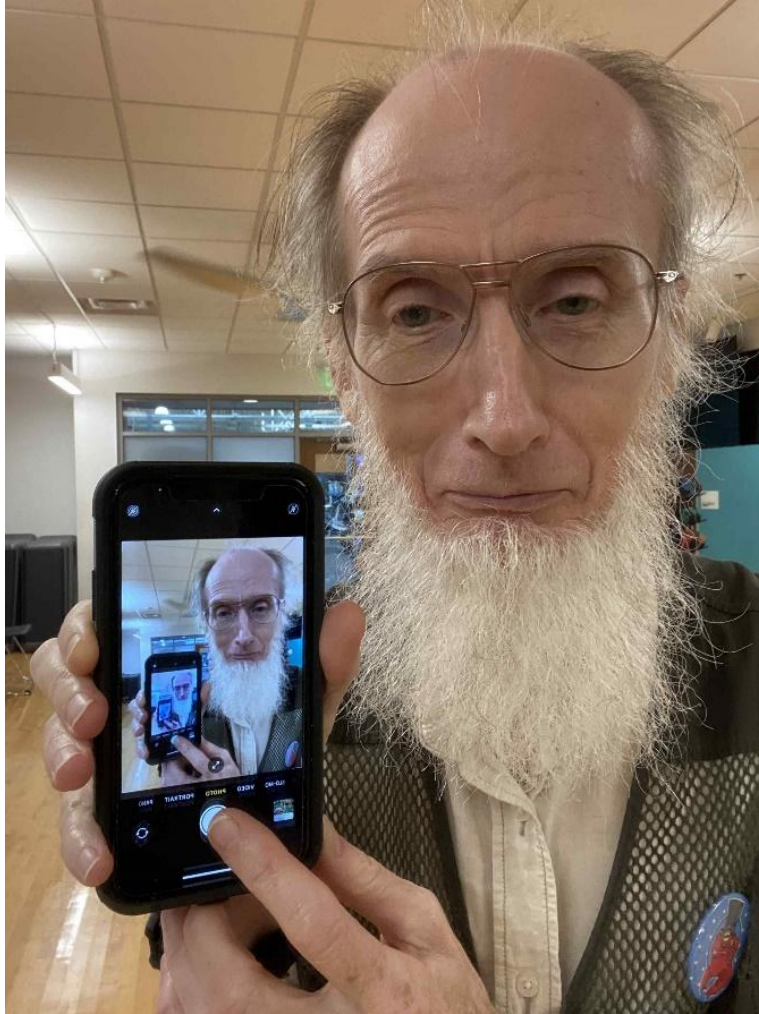


American Dances



for Violin and Piano

Bill Robinson

American Dances

for Violin and Piano

January 21—March 30, 2008; revised Nov. 26—Dec. 1, 2024

Duration: ~24 minutes *for Eric Pritchard*

American Dances is one of a series of pieces written for Eric Pritchard, first violinist of the Ciompi Quartet of Duke University, originally as a string quartet. At Eric's request, I arranged this work for violin and piano. This is very much an arrangement and not a simple transcription, so any comparison with the quartet will find significant variance.

After the premiere performance of the string quartet in 2013, I was not satisfied with the first movement, and recomposed it in 2024, during the presidential election. This motivated me to give it a new title, *Harris Waltz*, in honor of Kamala Harris and Tim Walz, in their failed attempt to stop Donald Trump from having a second term as president. The second movement, *Texas Two Step*, pays at least nominal tribute to the state of my birth and home for many years. I can't claim much authenticity in its two-stepness but at least it's fairly up-tempo and in 4/4, and appropriate for a formal and rather crazed square dance. The third movement was originally written just before the birth of Aaron Pritchard, son of Eric and Laura; during the revisions of 2024, Aaron was quite sick and undergoing difficult treatments, thus the new title to this movement, *Dance for the seriously ill*. The last movement stems from the inspired fiddling and great musicianship of the Roma people, as well as barn dances.

In 2024, I made major revisions in the piece, and orchestrated it to become *Symphony No. 4: American Dances*.

This piece requires the sostenuto pedal in several places, which should be clear by the context. I have used three staves instead of two for the piano in brief passages in the middle two movements, as this makes the score much more legible.

Bill Robinson

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billrobinsonmusic.com

edited by Eric Pritchard

American Dances for Violin and Piano

I. Harris Waltz [5:10]

Bill Robinson

Kamallegro (♩ = 130)

Violin

Piano

mf

mf

f

f

ff

mf *p* *p* *mp*

mf *p* *p* *mp*

8^{vb}

8^{vb}

20

20

American Dances

2

29 *mf* *f*

29 *mf* *mf*

29 *mf* *mf*

35 *mp*

35 *mp*

35 *mp*

42 *p* *p cresc.*

42 *p cresc.*

42 *p* *p cresc.*

49 *(mf)* *f* *f dim.* *(mf)*

49 *(mf)* *f* *f dim.* *(mf)*

Red. *

56

Measures 56-62 of the musical score. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a melodic phrase in measures 56-58, followed by rests in measures 59-60, and then continues in measures 61-62. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand. Dynamic markings include *(mp)*, *p*, *mp*, and *mf*.

(mp) *p* *mp* *mf*

63

Measures 63-69 of the musical score. The vocal line continues with a melodic phrase in measures 63-65, followed by rests in measures 66-67, and then continues in measures 68-69. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand. Dynamic markings include *dim.* and *8vb*.

dim. *8vb*

70

Measures 70-78 of the musical score. The vocal line continues with a melodic phrase in measures 70-72, followed by rests in measures 73-74, and then continues in measures 75-78. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand. Dynamic markings include *p*, *pp*, and *ff*.

p *pp* *ff*

79

Measures 79-85 of the musical score. The vocal line continues with a melodic phrase in measures 79-81, followed by rests in measures 82-83, and then continues in measures 84-85. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand. Dynamic markings include *p*, *pp*, and *ff*.

p *pp* *ff*

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4

83

ff dim. *f* *(mf)*

86

(mp) *p* *(mp)* *p*

93

p *f* *mf dim.* *p* *f* *mf dim.*

99

mp *mp cresc.* *mp* *mp cresc.*

Kamadagio (♩ = 90)

106

rit.

mf *dim.* *mp* *dolce*

114

122

cresc.

129

rit.

f *p* *ff*

Tempo I (♩ = 130)

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6

136

136

140

mf *p* *pp*

140

149

ff

149

153

153

158

158

162

162

ff

ff

Ped.

166

166

f *mf* *mp* *p*

f *mf* *mp* *p*

Ped.

171

171

p

Ped.

American Dances

8

178

185

192

198

II. Texas Two Step

[5:15]

9

Amarillo ma non troppo (♩ = 100)

Violin

Piano

ff

ff

Reo.

*

5

5

8^{va} -

8

8

11

11

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10

14

8^{va}

18

marcato

ff

21

25

29

29

33

33

36

36

41

41

ff

p

legato

p

pp

p

pp

8va

8vb

American Dances

12

48 *pp*

(8va)-----

48

49

50

51 *mf* *f*

51 *mf* *f*

51

52

53

54

54

54

55

56

57

57

57

58

59

60

The image displays a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It consists of two systems of staves. The first system features a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter rest, followed by eighth notes G4, A4, Bb4, and A4, then a quarter note G4. The second system is a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The treble staff continues the melody, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment using chords and single notes. Both systems include a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

The image displays a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It consists of three staves: a vocal line in treble clef, and piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems, each starting with a measure number "64". The vocal line features a melody with various note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The piano accompaniment includes chords, arpeggiated figures, and a steady bass line. The piece concludes with a final chord in the piano part.

67

67

mp

mp

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in three systems. The first system shows the vocal melody starting at measure 67, featuring a half note followed by eighth notes and a melisma. The second system shows the vocal melody continuing, with the piano accompaniment in the right hand. The third system shows the piano accompaniment in both hands, with the right hand playing a continuous eighth-note pattern and the left hand providing harmonic support. The score is in 3/4 time and ends with a repeat sign.

The image displays a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a single staff with a treble clef, starting at measure 70. The second system has three staves: a vocal line in the treble clef, and a piano accompaniment in the bass and tenor clefs. The piano part features a continuous eighth-note bass line and a melody in the right hand. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, accidentals, and phrasing slurs. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

American Dances

14

75 *mp*

75 *mp*

(8vb) -

78 *f* *ff*

78 *f* *ff*

8vb -

81 *Reo.*

81 *Reo.*

85

85

88

88

91

91

94

94

97

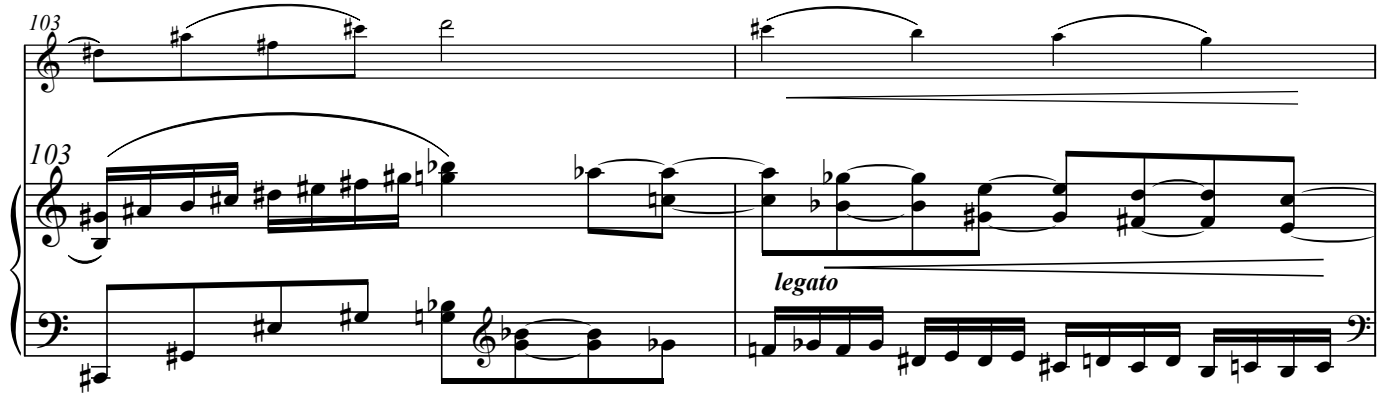
97

16

101



103



105



108



111

111

113

113

116

116

121

121

RH

f

p

dolce

f

p

8vb

American Dances

18

124

mf *f* *ff* heavy

8^{va}

127

8^{va}

molto rit. *a tempo marcato*

131

fff

131

fff

rit. *a tempo*

134

8^{va}

8^{vb} *And.* *

III. Dance for the seriously ill

19

Largo (♩ = 60)

con sord.

dolce

Violin

Piano

pp

pp

The musical score is written for Violin and Piano in 3/4 time, marked Largo (♩ = 60). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number (8, 16, 25) at the beginning of the first staff.

- System 1 (Measures 1-8):** The Violin part begins with a whole rest, followed by a melodic line starting on G4, moving stepwise up to B-flat4, then down to E-flat4. The Piano part begins with a whole rest, followed by a series of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo) and *dolce* (sweetly).
- System 2 (Measures 9-16):** The Violin part continues the melodic line. The Piano part features a series of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. Dynamics include *pp* and *dolce*.
- System 3 (Measures 17-24):** The Violin part continues the melodic line. The Piano part features a series of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. Dynamics include *dolce* and *f* (forte).
- System 4 (Measures 25-32):** The Violin part continues the melodic line. The Piano part features a series of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. Dynamics include *f* and *pp*.

20

32 *mf* *p*

32 *p*

40 LH

47

54 8vb

60

60

p *ff* *mp*

8vb----

This system contains measures 60 through 66. The upper staff is a single melodic line with dynamics *p*, *ff*, and *mp*. The lower staff is a piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines, also marked with *p*, *ff*, and *mp*. A bass line extension is indicated by '8vb----'.

67

67

This system contains measures 67 through 72. Both staves continue the musical material with various note values and rests.

73

73

p *ff*

8vb----

This system contains measures 73 through 79. The music features a crescendo leading to a *ff* dynamic. The piano part has a complex texture with many beamed sixteenth notes.

80

80

mp *p*

8vb----

This system contains measures 80 through 86. It begins with a *mp* dynamic and includes a decrescendo. The piano part has a more active bass line in the later measures.

22

87

87

93

pp

93

100

ff

8va

8vb

ff

100

108

pp

108

IV. Barn Dance with Gypsies [6']

23

Romayana (♩ = 100)

1 *senza sord.
pizz.*

Violin

p

Piano

7 *arco*

p

11 *mf*

mf

14 *mp*

8va

mp

American Dances

24 17

Measures 17-18 of the piece. The music is in 2/4 time. The melody in the treble clef starts with a quarter rest, followed by eighth and sixteenth notes. The piano accompaniment in the grand staff features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

19

Measures 19-21. Measure 19 continues the eighth-note accompaniment. Measures 20-21 feature a melodic line in the treble clef with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking. The piano accompaniment in the grand staff includes chords and eighth-note patterns.

22

Measures 22-24. Measures 22-23 feature a melodic line in the treble clef with a *f* (forte) dynamic marking. Measure 24 features a melodic line in the treble clef with a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic marking. The piano accompaniment in the grand staff includes chords and eighth-note patterns.

25

Measures 25-27. Measures 25-26 feature a melodic line in the treble clef. Measure 27 features a melodic line in the treble clef. The piano accompaniment in the grand staff includes chords and eighth-note patterns.

28

28

31

31

34

34

36

36

8va

American Dances

26 39

39

8^{va}

pp

legato

pp

42

ff

42

ff

44

44

8^{vb} - -

46

46

This musical score is for a piece titled "American Dances". It is written for a piano and features a melody line and a piano accompaniment. The score is divided into four systems, each containing a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *ff* (fortissimo). The tempo is not explicitly marked, but the style suggests a moderate, dance-like pace. The score is numbered 26, 39, 42, 44, and 46, indicating measure numbers. The first system starts at measure 26, the second at 39, the third at 42, and the fourth at 46. The score ends with a double bar line at measure 46.

48

48

Ped.

51

51

*

54

54

ff

ff

8va

58

58

f

mf

p

8va

American Dances

28 61

61

mf

61

mf

64

mp

mp

mp

8va

67

67

69

mp

71 *p*

Measures 71-74, piano (*p*). The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together, and slurs. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a more complex accompaniment with many beamed sixteenth notes and slurs. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

75 *f* *ff*

Measures 75-76, forte (*f*) and fortissimo (*ff*). The system consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melodic line. The lower staff features a very active accompaniment with many beamed sixteenth notes. In measure 76, the bass clef staff has an *8vb* (octave down) marking. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

77

Measures 77-78. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melodic line. The lower staff has a more active accompaniment with many beamed sixteenth notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

79

Measures 79-80. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melodic line. The lower staff has a more active accompaniment with many beamed sixteenth notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

American Dances

30 81

81

8vb-----

This system contains measures 81 and 82. The top staff (treble clef) features a complex melody with many beamed sixteenth and thirty-second notes. The bottom staff (bass clef) provides a harmonic accompaniment with longer note values and some ties. A dynamic marking of *ff* is present at the start of measure 83 in the following system.

83

ff

83

This system contains measures 83 and 84. Measure 83 begins with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The top staff continues the melodic line with beamed notes. The bottom staff has a more active bass line with frequent sixteenth-note patterns.

85

85

This system contains measures 85 and 86. The top staff shows a continuation of the intricate melodic patterns. The bottom staff features a steady bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes.

88

88

This system contains measures 87 and 88. The top staff has a very active melodic line with many beamed sixteenth notes. The bottom staff provides a supporting bass line with eighth-note patterns.

91

ff *mf* *mp*

95

p *dolce* *p* *8vb* *Ped.*

101

8vb

109

American Dances

32 114

pp mp

8vb

120

mf f

mf f

122

ff

ff

125

ff

127

Measures 127-128 of the musical score. The system consists of a single treble staff and a grand staff (treble and bass). Measure 127 features a melody in the treble staff with eighth notes and a bass line in the grand staff with eighth notes. Measure 128 continues the melody and bass line, with some notes beamed together. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

129

Measures 129-130 of the musical score. The system consists of a single treble staff and a grand staff. Measure 129 has a melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the grand staff. Measure 130 continues the melody and bass line. A dynamic marking *8vb* is present below the bass staff in measure 129. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

131

Measures 131-133 of the musical score. The system consists of a single treble staff and a grand staff. Measure 131 features a melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the grand staff. Measure 132 continues the melody and bass line. Measure 133 continues the melody and bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

134

Measures 134-135 of the musical score. The system consists of a single treble staff and a grand staff. Measure 134 features a melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the grand staff. Measure 135 continues the melody and bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

American Dances

34 136

fff

fff

139

ff

mf

ff

mf

142

mp

p

pp

rit. p. a p.

rubato

mp

p

pp

legato

rubato

8vb

Leo *

147

Leo *

Leo *