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### Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

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# Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

An Organ Demonstrator for Five Young Organists on One Organ and One or More Narrators

(Variations on CHOPSTICKS)



by John Barr



Organ Demonstrator No. 40
(For Upper Elementary and Middle School Students)



Music by John Barr Limericks by Gracia Grindal Drawings by Kitty Fischer

# Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

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## (Variations on CHOPSTICKS)

# John Barr

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John Barr (born July 24, 1938 in Myrtle Point, Oregon) took piano lessons continuously from age six through college. During college he began studying organ and composition with R. Gary Deavel at Manchester College, N. Manchester, Indiana, where he received his B.S. in Music Education (1960). His S.M.M. and S.M.D. degrees are from Union Theological Seminary School of Sacred Music, New York City (1962, 1977), where he studied organ with Donald Coats and Robert Baker and composition with Joseph Goodman.

John taught piano, choral, and instrumental music at Hillcrest School for Missionary Children, Jos, Nigeria (1962–65). Before and during this time, he was organist-choir director at Church of the Redeemer (American Baptist), Yonkers, New York, and the Church of St. Piran (Church of England), Jos, Nigeria. Thereafter, he was organist-choir director at University Presbyterian Church, Madison, Wisconsin before joining the music faculty at Bridgewater, Virginia, in 1968. John taught organ, piano, music theory, and church music there until his retirement in 2003. He is organist, since 1973, at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren.

Many of John's compositions appear in *The Organist's Companion*, edited by Wayne Leupold. He also composed *Organ Demonstrator No. 1: The Tune Factory* (WL600103) and *Organ Demonstrator No. 3: An Orchestra in the Organ* (WL600149) published by Wayne Leupold Editions.

John and his late wife, Ann Lootsma Barr, have two grown children, a son-in-law, and two grandsons.

#### Narration

(I. Prologue)

Narrator:

There's pedals, and pipes, and there's pizza:

the first thing you'll see when we greets ya'

is full ranks of pipes with stops of all types

that sing with one voice when they meets ya'.

(II. Theme)

Narrator:

The principal stops are the basic

on which you build all of your music like the dough and the meat

which you principally eat

it makes it all sound when you choose it.

(III. Variation One: Principals)

Narrator:

The strings are like pure mozzarella

they're melting and soft—hear that cello!

The violin sings and all of the strings

sing like sweet singing girls with young fellows.

(IV. Variation Two: Strings)

Narrator:

The flute stops are bright as tomatoes

or sometimes as dull as potatoes

though pity the flute Mozart hated its toot—

all he got for his music was play dough!

(V. Variation Three: Flutes)

Narrator:

The reeds add some spice like hot peppers—

that frightens old folks in their slippers.

They hate spicy reeds like hot pepper seeds

that wake up the dozing old sleepers.

(VI. Variation Four: Reeds)

Narrator:

We've almost forgotten the trumpet—

though Purcell and Clarke never dumped it!

It sounds with its horn like the guy at the door

who brings us the pizza—don't lump it!

(VII. Variation Five: Trumpet)

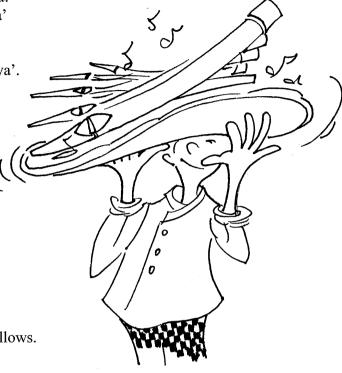
Narrator:

When all of these stops play together—the Great and the Swell and the Pedals—

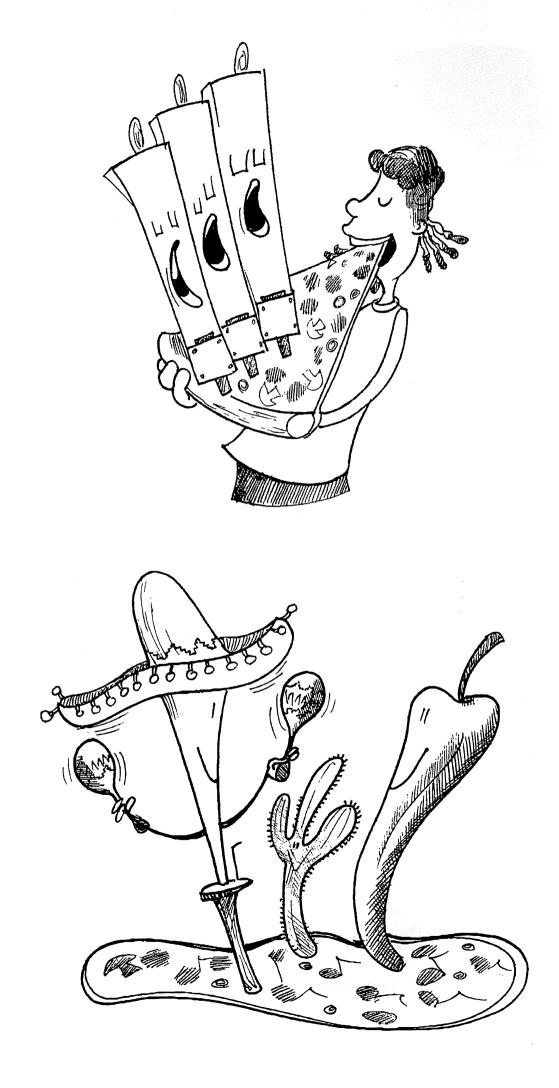
they'll give you a treat like the pizza you'll eat

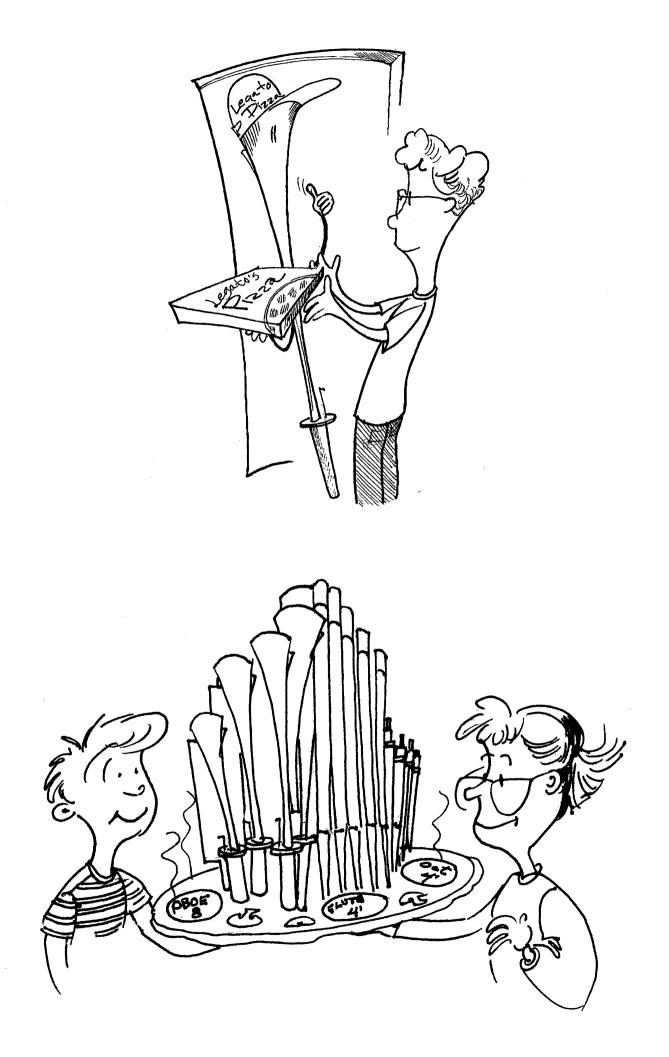
and will fill you with organic vittles.

(VIII. Epilogue—Full Organ)









#### **Preface**

CHOPSTICKS, one of the most famous and performed piano pieces in the world, was written in 1877 by a sixteen year old British girl, Euphemia Allen (1861–1949). It was published under a pseudonym Arthur de Lulli, perhaps with the hope of being taken more seriously. Sadly, this is the only known work by Allen (or de Lulli), and little else is known about her. This simple tune has brought pleasure to countless children, often being the first piece they master.





The "chop" in CHOPSTICKS relates to the motion of the player's hands which in the instructions on the original piece read: "play with both hands turned sideways, the little fingers lowest, so that the movements of the hands imitate the chopping from which the waltz gets its name." For this reason, the tune was originally called "The Celebrated Chop Waltz," and was known in Russia as "The Cutlet Polka."

A large number of professional artists have performed CHOPSTICKS, often in a spirit of parody, but sometimes in simple joyfulness. Classical composers have produced variations on the piece, including Alexander Borodin, who composed them for his daughter, Galila. Nikolay Adreyevich Rimsky-Korsakov also composed "Paraphrases on the Cutlet Polka."

Concerning the present variations, it is hoped that groups of five piano students will enjoy making their debuts as organists each playing their part of this suite while other students read the explanatory limericks at "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza" events. The most experienced piano student should play Part B as the second and third most experienced play Parts C and D respectively. The other two students which play the two notes of the low and high registers of the pedalboard should use the toe of the foot nearest to the pedal keys. Stockings may serve best to help place the toe accurately. The two pedal players may be significantly stabilized by holding on to their side of the console. If possible, each student should count out loud as they play. Signs also could be made (i.e., Principals, Strings, Flutes, Reeds, Trumpet, and Full Organ) and displayed (held by a young person) during the reading and playing of each respective variation. It is hoped that this activity will enhance your experience with the organ!

John Barr

#### Sources:

Ditty Box Enterprises, "Euphemia Allen", Composers of Recorder Music, http://www.grainger.de/music/composers/allene.html, viewed December 12, 2002.

Esther Kathryn, "The Origin of 'Chopsticks'", Unitarian Universalist Church of Winnipeg, http://www.uuwinnipeg.mb.ca/articles0202.htm, viewed December 12, 2012. (Includes references to authoritative sources.)

Stump Me, "Stump Me Questions Answered in December 2000", Mindless Crap, http://www.mindlesscrap.com/stumpme/12-00.htm, viewed December 12, 2002.

Ian Watson, "Well-Rounded: Orbital / μ-ziq, Albert Hall, London" from Melody Maker, May 25, 1996, reproduced at http://www.songtwo.demon.co.uk/orbital/ofm.html, viewed December 12, 2002.

Facing the organ:

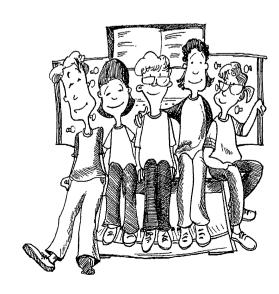
Player A – stands on the right side of the bench

Player B – sits on the right edge of the bench

Player C – sits in the middle of the bench

Player D – sits on the left edge of the bench

Player E – stands on the left side of the bench



### Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

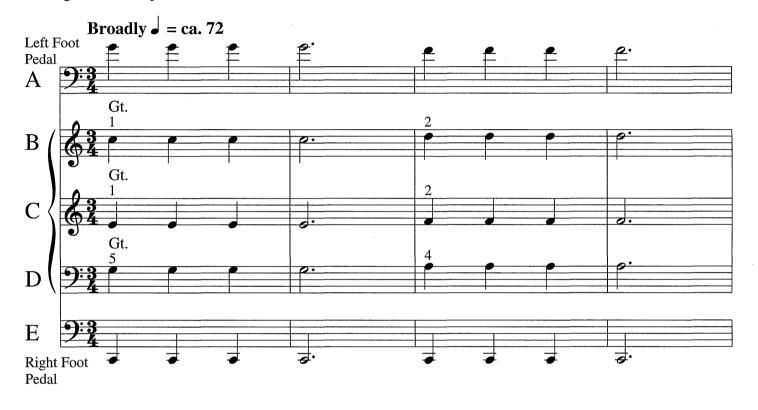
An Organ Demonstrator for Five Young Organists on One Organ and One or More Narrators

#### Variation on CHOPSTICKS

John Barr (b. 1938)

I. Prologue: Fanfare

Full organ of Flue stops



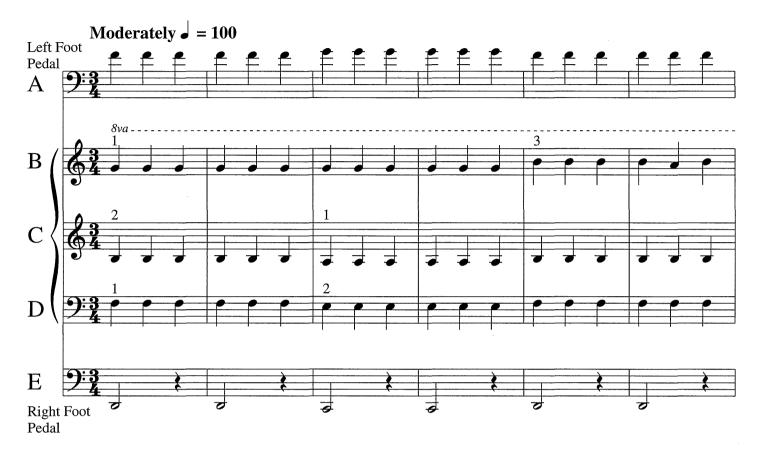


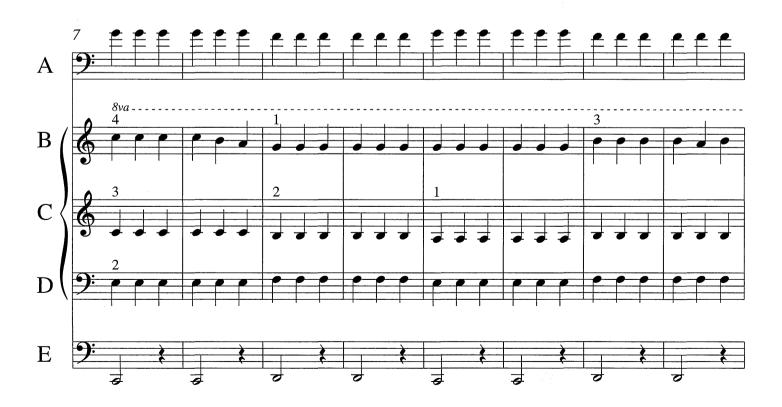
Narrator:

There's pedals, and pipes, and there's pizza: the first thing you'll see when we greets ya' is full ranks of pipes with stops of all types that sing with one voice when they meets ya'.

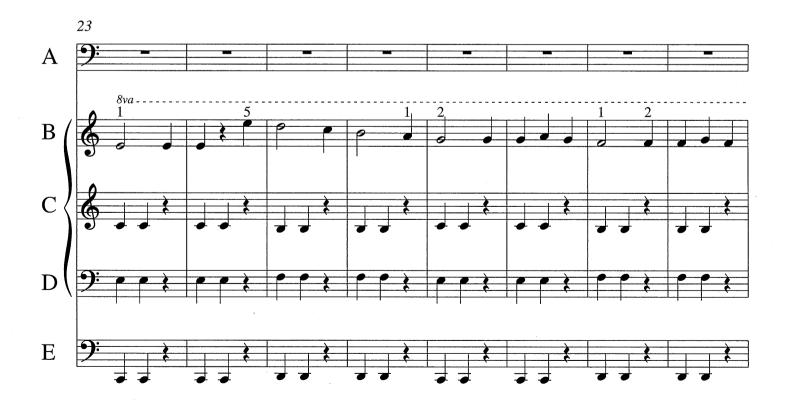
#### II. Theme

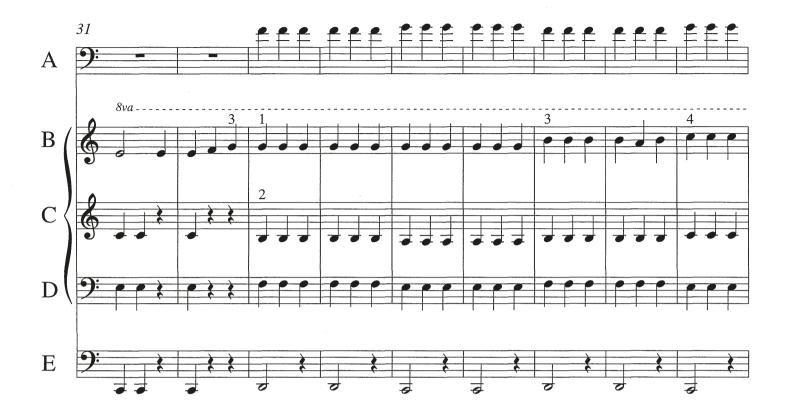
#### Full Organ without Reeds

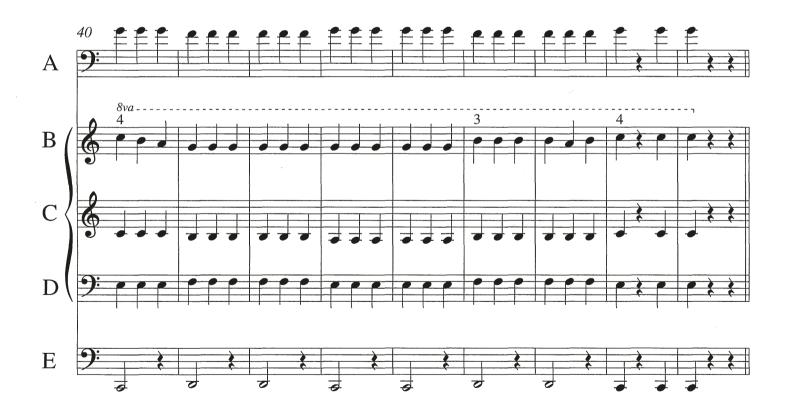








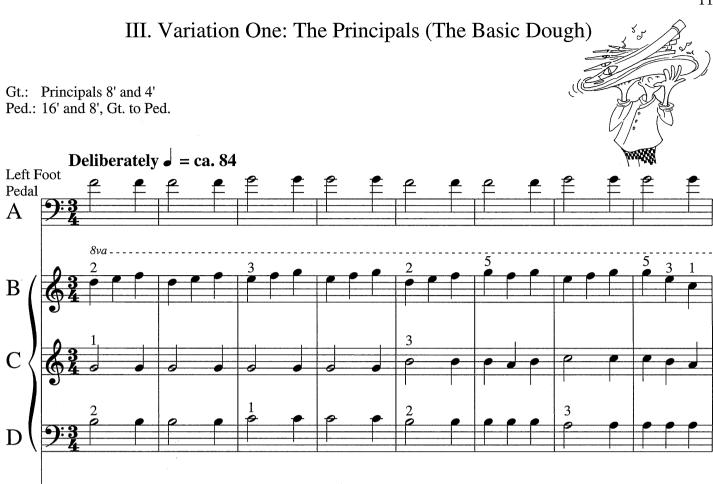


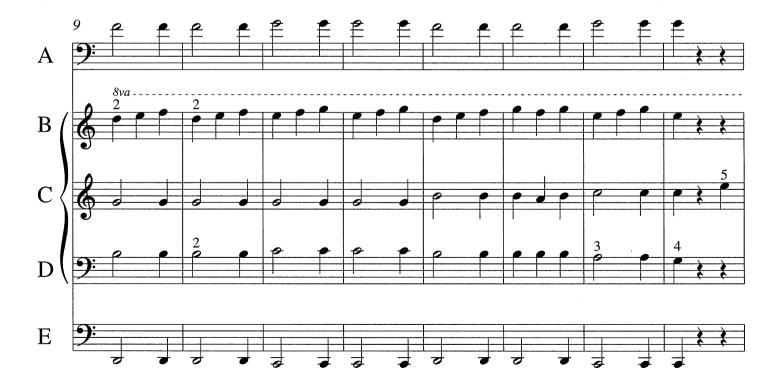


The principal stops are the basic on which you build all of your music like the dough and the meat

which you principally eat

it makes it all sound when you choose it.



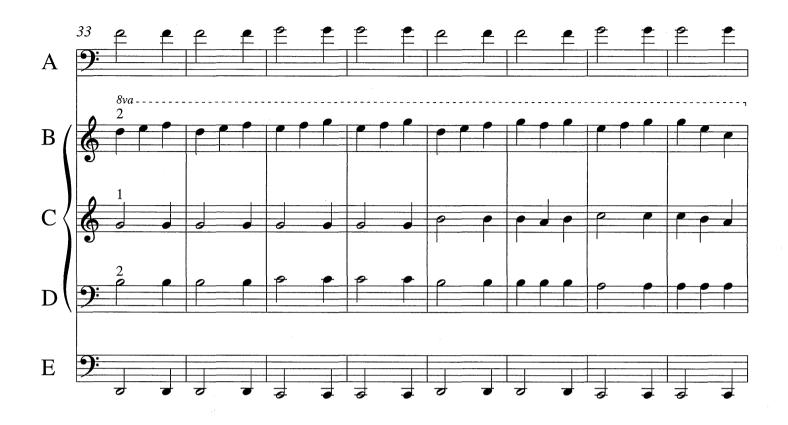


E

Right Foot Pedal









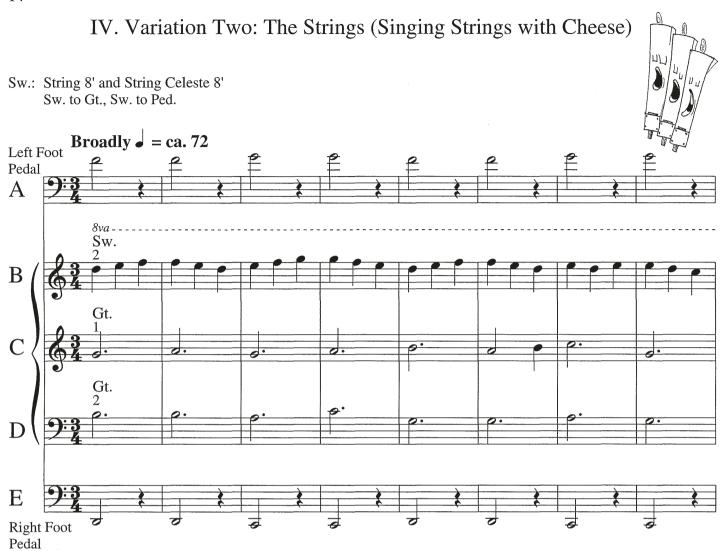
The strings are like pure mozzarella

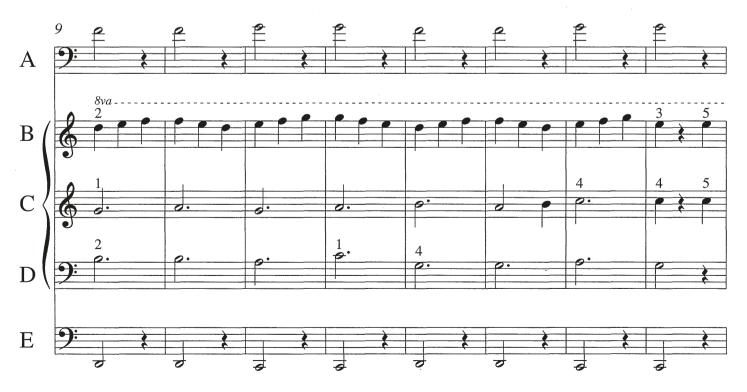
they're melting and soft—hear that cello!

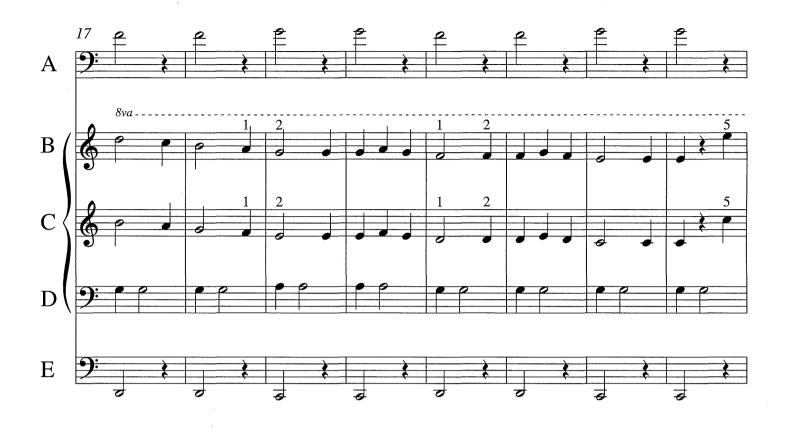
The violin sings

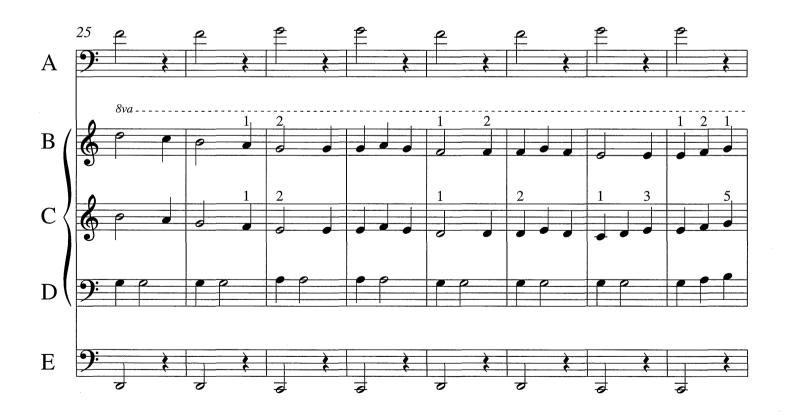
and all of the strings

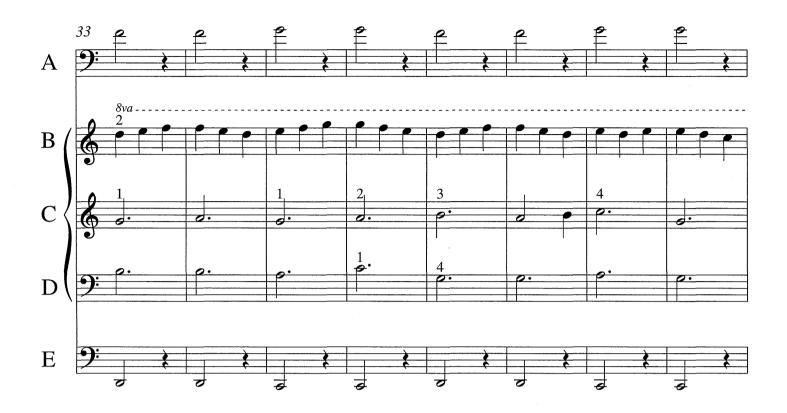
sing like sweet singing girls with young fellows.

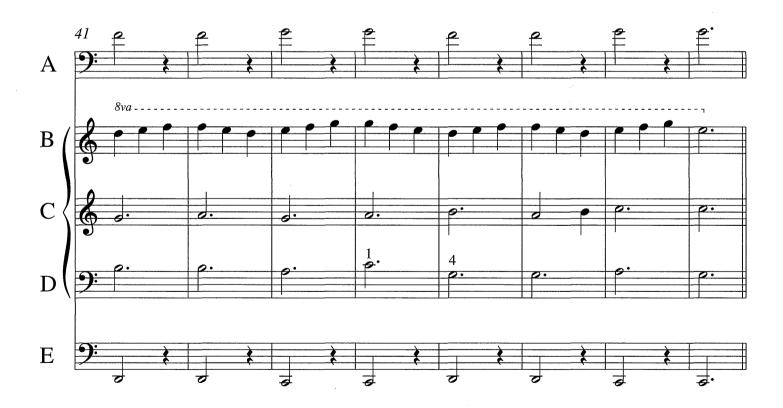












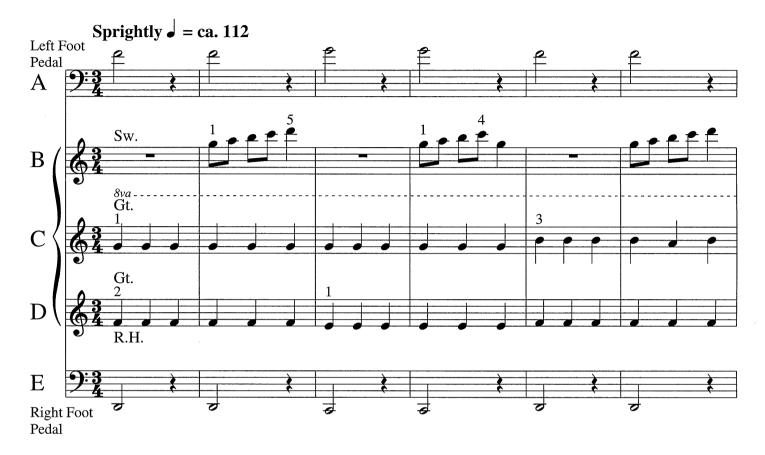
The flute stops are bright as tomatoes or sometimes as dull as potatoes

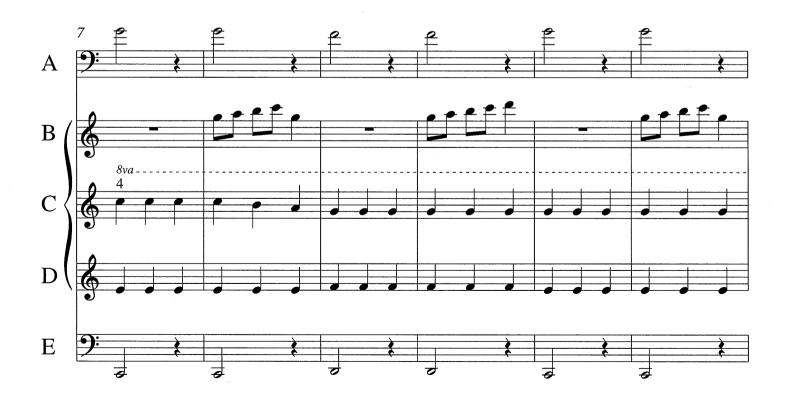
though pity the flute Mozart hated its toot—

all he got for his music was play dough!

#### V. Variation Three: The Flutes (Be Cool with Flutes)

Sw.: Flute 4'
Gt.: Flute 8'
Ped.: Flutes 16' and 8'



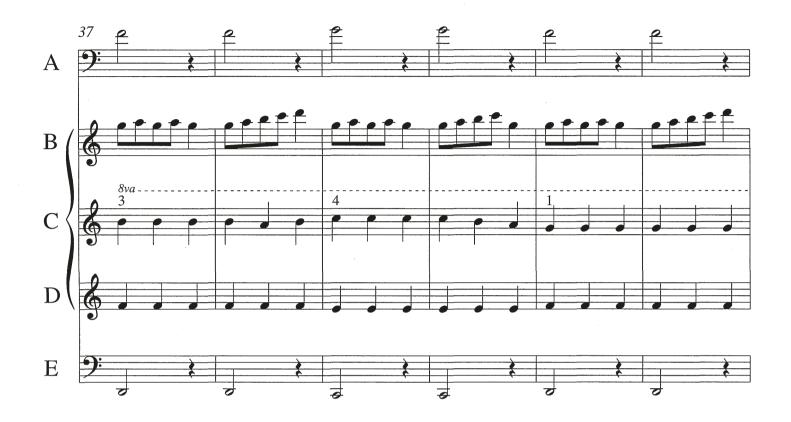


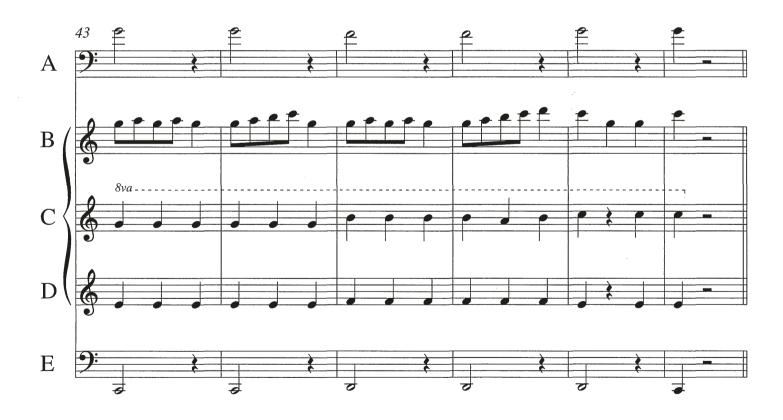












Narrator: The

The reeds add some spice like hot peppers—

that frightens old folks in their slippers.

They hate spicy reeds like hot pepper seeds

that wake up the dozing old sleepers.



Sw.: Trompette 8', Sw. 4' Sw. to Gt. 8' and 4', Sw. to Ped. 8'













We've almost forgotten the trumpet—

though Purcell and Clarke never dumped it!

It sounds with its horn like the guy at the door

who brings us the pizza—don't lump it!

#### VII. Variation Five: Trumpet Tune (Pizza Processional)

Sw.: Trompette 16', 8', and 4' Gt.: Principals 8', 4', (and 2') Ped.: Flues 16' and 8', Gt. to Ped. 8'









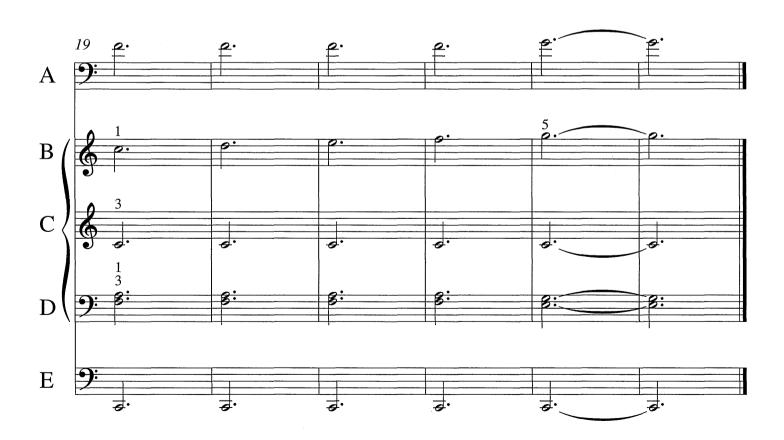
Narrator: When all of these stops play together—
the Great and the Swell and the Pedals—
they'll give you a treat
like the pizza you'll eat

and will fill you with organic vittles.











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