

Pierre La Plante

AMERICAN SKETCHES

INSTRUMENTATION

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 – Conductor | 1 – F Horn 2 |
| 5 – Flute 1 | 1 – F Horn 3 |
| 5 – Flute 2 | 1 – F Horn 4 |
| 1 – Piccolo | 2 – Trombone 1 |
| 1 – Oboe 1 | 2 – Trombone 2 |
| 1 – Oboe 2 | 2 – Trombone 3 |
| 1 – Bassoon 1 | 2 – Euphonium TC |
| 1 – Bassoon 2 | 2 – Euphonium BC |
| 4 – B \flat Clarinet 1 | – Tuba |
| 4 – B \flat Clarinet 2 | 1 – Timpani |
| 4 – B \flat Clarinet 3 | 4 – Mallet Percussion |
| 2 – B \flat Bass Clarinet | <i>Orchestra Bells, Chimes,</i> |
| 3 – E \flat Alto Saxophone 1 | <i>Xylophone, Vibraphone</i> |
| 3 – E \flat Alto Saxophone 2 | 3 – Percussion 1 |
| 2 – B \flat Tenor Saxophone | <i>Snare Drum, Bass Drum</i> |
| 2 – E \flat Baritone Saxophone | 3 – Percussion 2 |
| 3 – B \flat Trumpet 1 | <i>Suspended Cymbal, Whip,</i> |
| 3 – B \flat Trumpet 2 | <i>Crash Cymbals, Triangle,</i> |
| 3 – B \flat Trumpet 3 | <i>Wood Block, Tenor Drum,</i> |
| 1 – F Horn 1 | <i>Splash Cymbal</i> |

As with many folksongs, *The Shantyman's Life* exists in numerous versions. This setting is based on a transcription from a field recording I found in the archives of the Mills Music Library at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I am grateful to the library staff for their assistance and their permission to use the song. A shantyman is another name for a logger, or lumberjack. Many of these songs by and about shantymen can be boastful and bawdy, but this particular song seems more introspective, subdued, and tinged with a bit of loneliness:

*Come all you jolly fellows, come listen to my song.
It's all about the pin'ry boys and how they got along.*

.....

*Into the lonesome pine woods, all winter to remain.
A-waiting for the springtime to return again.*

The Erie Canal, while appearing in numerous collections as a folksong, was actually written in 1906 by Thomas Allen and refers to the famous canal (finished in 1825) that connected the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. Rivers and canals were the main mode of transportation for bulk goods long before paved highways and even the railroads. Excerpts from the lyrics provide a mini history lesson:

I've got a mule and her name is Sal, fifteen miles on the Erie Canal.

.....

*We've hauled some barges in our day, filled with lumber, coal and hay...
And we know every inch of the way, from Albany to Buffalo.
Low bridge, everybody down,
Low bridge for we're coming to a town.*

Shoo Fly is now a well known children's song, but had its origins with African American soldiers during the Civil War and was also popular during the Spanish American War, no doubt because of the deprivations and awful living conditions brought on by war. The original lyrics would nowadays be considered offensive, and much background and speculative information regarding the song can be found online.

The present lyrics are as follows:

*Shoo Fly don't bother me (3x)
I feel, I feel, I feel...I feel like the morning star! (3x)*

The first performance of *American Sketches* was at Bruce High School (Bruce, WI) on November 19, 2013, by the Lakeland All-Conference Honors Band under the direction of Dr. John R. Stewart. The inclusion of *The Shantyman's Life* was a happy coincidence, given that Bruce is located in Northern Wisconsin, once the heart of the great pine timber industry of 19th Century Wisconsin.

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AMERICAN SKETCHES

1. THE SHANTYMAN'S LIFE

Pierre La Plante

LDP-7014-00

Moderato ♩ = 60 rit. 4 A Tempo

Flute 1 2
Piccolo
Oboe 1 2
Bassoon 1 2
B♭ Clarinet 1 2 3
B♭ Bass Clarinet
E♭ Alto Saxophone 1 2
B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone
B♭ Trumpet 1 2 3
F Horn 1 2 3 4
Trombone 1 2 3
Euphonium
Tuba
Timpani
Mallet Percussion
Percussion 1 2

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 14

Fl. 1 2 *p* *mf*

Picc. *p* *mf*

Ob. 1 2 *p* *mf*

Bsn. 1 2 *p* *mp* *mf*

B. Cl. 1 2 3 *p* *mp* *mf*

A. Sax. 1 2 *p* *mp* *mf*

T. Sax. *p* *mp*

Bar. Sax. *p* *mp*

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Tpt. 1 2 3 *p* *a2*

Hn. 1 2 3 4 *p* *mf*

Tbn. 1 2 3 *p* *a2*

Euph. *p* *mf*

Tba. *p* *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Mlt. Perc. *mp* *mf*

Perc. 1 2 *mf*

Orech. Bells *mp* *mf*

15 22

Fl. 1/2

Picc.

Ob. 1/2

Bsn. 1/2

B. Cl. 1/2/3

A. Sax. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

Tpt. 1/2/3

Hn. 1/2/3/4

Tbn. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1/2

S. D.

B. D.

f, *mf*, *f*, *a2*, *mp*, *p*

32 35 Fl. 1 *div.*

Fl. 1/2 *mf* *p*

Picc. *p*

Ob. 1/2 *mf* *p*

Bsn. 1/2 *mf* *p* *a2*

B♭ Cl. 1/2 *mf* *p*

B. Cl. 3 *mf* *p*

A. Sax. 1/2 *mf* *p*

T. Sax. *mf* *p*

Bar. Sax. *mf* *p* Low WW/Brass

32 33 34 35 36 37 38

Tpt. 1 *p*

2/3 *a2* *p*

Hn. 1/2 *p*

3/4 *p*

Tbn. 1 *a2* *p*

2/3 *a2* 3 *a2* 2

Euph. *Low WW* *mf* *p* *Play*

Tba. *p*

Timp. *p*

Mlt. Perc. *p*

Perc. 1 *p*

2

2. THE ERIE CANAL

Unhurried, easy swing ♩ = 114

The musical score is arranged for a full orchestra. The tempo is 'Unhurried, easy swing' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 114. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into measures 1 through 7, with a section marker '5' appearing above measure 5. Dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *f* (forte). Performance instructions include 'a2' (second octave) for several instruments and 'Play' for the Horns in measure 7. The percussion part includes Snare Drum (S. D.), Bass Drum (B. D.), and Wood Block.

13

8

Fl. 1 2

Picc.

Ob. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

B^b Cl. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Tpt. 1 2 3

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1 2

Tenor Drum

mf

f

a2

1ln.

straight eighths

DP200515

f

22 27

Fl. 1 2

Picc.

Ob. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

B. Cl. 1 2 3

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Tpt. 1 2 3

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. Bells

Perc. 1 2

mp

a2

f

29 33

Fl. 1 2

Picc.

Ob. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

B. Cl. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

29 30 31 32 33 34 35

Tpt. 1 2 3

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1 2

Wood Block

Xyl.

mp *mf* *p* *a2*

36 37

Fl. 1 2 *a2* *f*

Picc. *f*

Ob. 1 2 *f* *a2*

Bsn. 1 2 *f*

B. Cl. 1 2 3 *f*

A. Sax. 1 2 *f*

T. Sax. *f*

Bar. Sax. *f*

36 37 38 39 40 41 42

Tpt. 1 2 3 *f* *a2*

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 3 *f* *a2*

Euph. *f*

Tba. *f*

Timp.

Mlt. Perc. *p* *<* *sfz*

Perc. 1 2

46 Pesante

43

Fl. 1 2

Picc.

Ob. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

B♭ Cl. 1 2 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

43 44 45 46 47 48 49

Tpt. 1 2 3

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1 2

div.

f

sf

a2

straight eighths

Chimes

57 59

Fl. 1 2 *ff* *mp* *a2*

Picc. *ff* *mp*

Ob. 1 2 *ff* *mp*

Bsn. 1 2 *ff*

B. Cl. 1 2 3 *ff*

A. Sax. 1 2 *ff*

T. Sax. *ff*

Bar. Sax. *ff*

57 58 59 60 61 62

Tpt. 1 2 3 *ff* *a2*

Hn. 1 2 3 4 *ff* *a2*

Tbn. 1 2 3 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tba. *ff*

Timp. *ff*

Mlt. Perc. *ff*

Perc. 1 2 *ff*

3. SHOO FLY (DON'T BOTHER ME)

Capriciously ♩ = 112

5

This musical score is for the piece "Shoo Fly (Don't Bother Me)" and is marked "Capriciously ♩ = 112". The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flute (Fl.):** 1 and 2 staves. Part 1 starts at measure 5 with a dynamic of *p* and a *a2* marking.
- Piccobello (Picc.):** 1 staff. Part 1 starts at measure 5 with a dynamic of *p*.
- Oboe (Ob.):** 1 and 2 staves. Part 1 starts at measure 5 with a dynamic of *p* and a *a2* marking.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** 1 and 2 staves.
- Bass Clarinet (B♭ Cl.):** 1, 2, and 3 staves.
- Clarinet in B♭ (B. Cl.):** 1 staff.
- Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.):** 1 and 2 staves.
- Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.):** 1 staff.
- Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.):** 1 staff.
- Trumpet (Tpt.):** 1, 2, and 3 staves.
- Horn (Hn.):** 1, 2, 3, and 4 staves.
- Trombone (Tbn.):** 1, 2, and 3 staves.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** 1 staff.
- Tuba (Tba.):** 1 staff.
- Timpani (Timp.):** 1 staff.
- Military Percussion (Mlt. Perc.):** 1 staff. Includes Xyl. (Xylophone) and S. D. (Snare Drum) with brushes. Dynamics include *mp*.
- Percussion (Perc.):** 1 and 2 staves.

The score is divided into measures 1 through 11. A large watermark "Not valid for performance" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

12 19

Fl. 1/2

Picc.

Ob. 1/2

Bsn. 1/2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

27

23

Fl. 1/2

Picc.

Ob. 1/2

Bsn. 1/2

B. Cl. 1/2/3

A. Sax. 1/2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

Tpt. 1/2/3

Hn. 1/2/3/4

Tbn. 1/2/3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mlt. Perc.

Perc. 1/2

65

61 A Tempo (♩ = 112)

Fl. 1 2 *rit.* *mp*

Picc. *mp*

Ob. 1 2 *mp*

Bsn. 1 2 *mp*

B^b Cl. 1 2 3 *f* *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Sax. 1 2 *f*

T. Sax. *f* 1 player *mp*

Bar. Sax. *f*

57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67

Tpt. 1 2 3 *f* *a2*

Hn. 1 2 3 4 *f*

Tbn. 1 2 3

Euph. *f*

Tba. *f*

Timp. *clm*

Mlt. Perc. *mp*
with sticks near rim *mp*

Perc. 1 2

68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77

Fl. 1/2 *f* *Play*

Picc. *f*

Ob. 1/2 *f*

Bsn. 1/2 *f*

B. Cl. 1 *f*

B. Cl. 2 *f*

B. Cl. 3 *f*

A. Sax. 1/2 *f*

T. Sax. *f* *tutti*

Bar. Sax. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2/3 *f*

Hn. 1/2 *f*

Hn. 3/4 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2/3 *f*

Euph. *f*

Tba. *f*

Timp. *f*

Mlt. Perc. *f* *Bells*

Perc. 1 *f* *normal f*

Perc. 2 *f* *Cr. Cym.*

78 81

Fl. 1 2

Picc.

Ob. 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

B. Cl. 1 2 3

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88

Tpt. 1 2 3

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Mit. Perc.

Perc. 1 2

Sus. Cym.

mp *mf* *a2* *p* *f*

