



CLASSIC BAND

Commissioned by Warren Mercer and the
North Hills High School Band, Pittsburgh, PA

VARIATIONS ON A THEME OF ROBERT SCHUMANN

(The Happy Farmer)

ROBERT JAGER

INSTRUMENTATION

1	Conductor	1	E \flat Contrabass Clarinet	1	1st Trombone
1	C Piccolo	1	1st E \flat Alto Saxophone	1	2nd Trombone
3	1st C Flute	1	2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone	1	Bass Trombone
3	2nd C Flute	1	B \flat Tenor Saxophone	2	Baritone B.C.
1	1st Oboe	1	E \flat Baritone Saxophone	1	Baritone T.C.
1	2nd Oboe	3	1st B \flat Cornet	4	Tuba
1	1st Bassoon	3	2nd B \flat Cornet	1	String Bass
1	2nd Bassoon	3	3rd B \flat Cornet	1	Timpani
1	E \flat Clarinet	2	1st and 2nd B \flat Trumpets	3	Percussion (Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Crash Cymbals, Triangle, Gong, Suspended Cymbal, Tambourine)
3	1st B \flat Clarinet	1	1st Horn in F	1	Mallet Percussion (Xylophone, Vibes, Chimes, Bells)
3	2nd B \flat Clarinet	1	2nd Horn in F		
3	3rd B \flat Clarinet	1	3rd Horn in F		
1	E \flat Alto Clarinet	1	4th Horn in F		
1	B \flat Bass Clarinet				

PROGRAM NOTES

Robert Jager was born in Binghamton, New York, in 1939, Educated at Wheaton College and the University of Michigan, Mr. Jager served four years in the U.S. Navy as staff arranger at the Armed Forces School of Music. He has received a number of awards for his music, including the Ostwald Award of the American Bandmasters Association in 1964 for his SYMPHONY FOR BAND and again in 1968 for his DIAMOND VARIATIONS. He is also a two-time winner of the Roth Award of the National School Orchestra Association, 1964 and 1966.

Mr. Jager has received many commissions for his music and has written for chorus, orchestra, and small ensembles as well as concert band. In addition, he has written more than a dozen scores for educational films and filmstrips. His music has been performed throughout the United States as well as in Canada, South America, and Japan.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The VARIATIONS ON A THEME OF ROBERT SCHUMANN was written on commission for the North Hills High School Band in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and was premiered by this excellent ensemble and their fine director, Warren Mercer, at the 1969 Eastern Region Music Educators National Conference meeting in Washington, D.C.

The theme is "The Happy Farmer," and the variations evolve one from the other throughout the work using rhythmic, melodic, and intervallic relationships for their basis of variance.

The basic structure is:

Theme	The Happy Farmer
Variation I	The theme is juxtaposed throughout "solo" voices in a Haydn-esque fashion
Variation II	Flutes outline theme in scherzo-like style
Variation III	Free variation on rhythmic values
Variation IV	Melodic and intervallic variation
Variation V	Distortion of melodic line in rhapsodic variation
Variation VI	Rhythmic variation of theme

Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order. We hope this will not present any difficulty for you in distributing the parts. Thank you for your understanding.

