

Romany Life

At Batawagama band camp, each year we use a "Camp Theme" to teach musical concepts and create interest. In past years, some of these themes have been Pirate Girls, Mexican Hat Dance, theme and variation, dissonance and other musical ideas. This year, our theme is Gypsy music and our new composition is named Romany Life.

Romani people migrated in the late Middle Ages from India through the Middle East to Eastern Europe. English speaking Europeans called them Gypsies because they mistakenly thought they came from Egypt. (In many circles the name Gypsy is not considered acceptable.) In Germany they became known as Zigeuner and in France, Tzigane. These nomadic people refer to themselves as Roma. However they are named, they brought with them an incredibly rich tradition of music, story and poetry.

In preparing for this year's theme, I studied examples of Romani music, poetry and stories. In doing so, I was taken with the similarity of Romani music with Jewish klezmer music, Spanish Flamenco music and Middle Eastern music of all kinds. Many of the same scales, instruments and rhythms are used in all of these traditions.

Important elements in Romani music are strong rhythms, accelerando or gradually speeding up, improvised cadenzas, instruments used, alternating sections of slow and fast, an engaging and often similar story line and, most importantly, the use of the diminished 2nd in the scale used to create the melody and harmony. Whether one understands musical terminology or not, the distinctive sound of the diminished 2nd interval is immediately recognizable.

In my composition Romany Life, I tried to incorporate as many of the Romani musical elements as possible. After an attention-getting opening chord, the piece begins with a clarinet cadenza (clarinet is an important instrument in Romani and klezmer music.) Next we hear a plaintive melody using a minor mode, including the augmented 2nd. In the third section, a fast dance-like theme appears abruptly. This interchange between cadenza (next in the trombone and tenor sax), plaintive melody and dance theme occurs twice more until we come to a new theme beginning slowly. Rhythmically and gradually this new theme increases in speed and intensity until the tempo of the fast dance-like theme appears again and continues to build to the end.

In learning Romany Life, the campers sang the melodies as songs during their after-meal singing sessions. The story used in the songs is taken from typical Romani stories. The story I used is about a young girl who loves to wander and meets a boy in the woods. When she returns to the woods the next day, the boy has disappeared and she wonders if she will see him again. The boy is wondering how such a beautiful girl could love him and asks a Gypsy Fortune Teller to let him know if he will marry this girl.

Romany Life is composed with separate parts for the Bata and Gama bands in order to accommodate their individual playing levels. You will hear each band separately at times and together most times. Welcome to the nomadic life of the Roma!



Robert Hanson

music makes the heart dance and the soul sing

62nd Annual Concert



Lynn Hansen

Gama Band Conductor

Retired from Traverse City Area Public Schools
Principal Oboe in Traverse City Symphony Orchestra
Traverse City, Michigan

William Wiedrich

Bata Band Conductor

Orchestra Conductor, University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida

Saturday, June 25, 2016
Forest Park Gymnasium
7:30 PM

GAMA BAND
Lynn Hansen, Conductor

Gypsy Dance Joseph Compello
Durmé, Durmé (Sephardic Folk Song Lullaby) arr. Hansen
Danse Carnivale Randall D. Standridge

BATA BAND
William Wiedrich, Conductor

Pas Redouble (Double Quick-Step) Camille Saint Saens/Frackenpohl
Second Suite for Band Robert Jager
 Fanfare
 Ballade
 Scherzo
His Honor (March) Henry Fillmore/Fennel

COMBINED BANDS

Romany Life Robert Hanson

Special Thanks

to

Mrs. Becky Waters, Mr. Ponchaud, Mr. McGregor, and Staff
&
The Forest Park Schools
for hosting the
62nd Annual Iron County Band Camp Concert

The West Iron County Schools
for providing transportation, instruments, and equipment
necessary for instruction and rehearsals

Mr. Norm Vanaman for his assistance and support

Area businesses, organizations, and individuals who
provided scholarships for many of the students attending
the 2016 Iron County Band Camp

To the parents of the band students for your continued
support in making music part of your children's lives

To all of the band students, your love and passion for music
and your instrument shows from your hard work
and dedication this week

Youth Camp Staff

Lorna Addison
Erica Baker
Sean Berhow
Ashley Berton
Kristie Bigari
Katie Cattani
Justin Collins
Ralph Dabeck
Toni DeMerse
Allison Edwards
Emily Faccin
Kailey Garavet
Adam Gessler
Devyn Goodrich
Bailey Griebel
Kelsie Herren
Adel Isaacson
Amy Johnson
Sarah Kerttu
McKenna Koffman
Andrew LaCombe
Olivia LaForest
GlenEllen Lehmberg
Chad Leisenring
Anne Ludwig

Sydney Mazurek
Katherine Menard
Danielle Molenaar
Haley Molenaar
Cynthia Naber
Bryce Peterson
Thomas Prica
Jessica Prudhomme
Logan Raney
Caroline Reynolds
Katilee Rhino
Matt Riutta
Michael Riutta
Jared Saigh
Brian Schulze
Paula Schulze
Craig Tanner
Emily Tardiff
Susanna Toivonen
Will Toivonen
Kirsten Williams
Leigha Woelffer
Ray Woodworth
Mike Woodworth

Instrumental Specialists

PHILLIP BLOOMER.....TUBA & Euphonium
Euphonium and Tuba Instructor, Eastern Michigan University

ROGER BRAUN.....PERCUSSION
Professor of Percussion, Ohio University, Principal Percussion, Ohio Valley
Symphony

DAVID CRIDER.....PERCUSSION
Owner, Cataina Music Company, Tucson, Arizona

MARC FINK.....OBOE
Emeritus Professor of Oboe, University of Wisconsin Madison, Principal Oboe,
Madison Symphony Orchestra

JULIE GERHARDT.....HORN
Atlanta Freelancer, Instructor of Horn, University of West Georgia

CATHERINE GREGORY.....FLUTE
New York based Australian Flutist, Artist, Lecturer, Moravian College

MIKE HALL.....TROMBONE
Professor of Trombone, Old Dominion University, Virginia Governor's School for
the Arts

ROBERT HANSON.....COMPOSER
Highland Park, Illinois

MATTHEW PATNODE.....SAXOPHONE
Professor of Saxophone, North Dakota State University

BRANDON RIDENOUR.....TRUMPET
Former trumpet with Canadian Brass, International Trumpet Soloist, Composer &
Arranger

ROBERT SPRING.....CLARINET
Professor of Music, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona

KAYLEE WHITFIELD.....BASSOON
Bassoon Performance Graduate Student at Cleveland Institute of Music

JIM WILHEMSEN.....PIANO
Teacher of Piano, Accompanist, Vocal Coach, and Freelance Musician; Director of
Clarkston Conservatory of Music; Fulbright Scholar; Former Faculty, University of
Michigan, Wayne State University, Center for Creative Studies, Detroit

GAMA BAND

OBOE

Roxy Sprowl
Laina Toivonen
Taylor Clark

FLUTE

Kevin Beaghan
Layla Blahnik-Thoune
Trinity Kinnunen
Mercedes Simmons
Grace Pease
Faith Nelson
Mindy McKinnon
Haley Huhn
Hailey McClure
Maddie Thoreson
Gwendalynn Pasich
Alexis Condon
Allie Virenius

CLARINET

Taylor Uimari
Greta Papin
Marli Smith
Kendall Johnson
Bailey Blazier
Morgan Ponchaud
Emily King
Carmen Cameron

BASSOON

Layla Vickers
Delaney Sall

ALTO SAX

Kadynce Fontaine
Sydney Toivonen
Libby Peplinski
Kaisa Nagel
Eli Langston
Sean Caron
Ariella Murray
Janak Hudson
Taylor Popelka

TENOR SAX

Tony Flath
Logan Smith
Tommy Showers
Sierra Lang

TRUMPET

Frannie Zukowski
Timothy Ziegler
Kurtis Kytta
Laura Sliva
Elle Soderberg
Mia Curry
Jordan Kaurala
Ryan Brunette

FRENCH HORN

Karen Ludwig
Evan Hedtke
Madeline Damp
Savannah Methner

TROMBONE

Jaron Hudson
Jackson Kagy
Mackenzie Rundell
James Peacock
Anna Davis
Alissa Johnson
Hayley Price

BARITONE

Ren Thorne
Carlie Rundell
Kolson Kytta
Alex Casey
Alexis Jacko

TUBA

Eli Salin
Erik Becker
Katherine Popko
Kyle Dickerson

***PERCUSSION

Ian Addison
Lillian Biolo-Thompson
Sierra Cole
Amanda Diddams
Maria Flynn
Dylan Messina
Presley Snyder
Zoey Brian

BATA BAND

OBOE

Kirstyn Miles
Marlee Matthews
Jeana Palmer
Abigail Knudsen

FLUTE

Rachel Nulf
Leah Riutta
Jacob Miller
Gabriela Mackey
Alina Soha
Sophie Rowe
Eden Langlois
Macy Pawielski
Mary Massopust
Gracie Harrington
Taylor Hines

CLARINET

Amanda Matznick
Jackson Vanbeek
Nicholas Oberto
Miranda Rich
Annastiina Ketsi
Julia Harris
Marli Hietala
Sydney Timbrook

BASS CLARINET

Vanessa John
Mackenze Arntsen

BASSOON

Oskar Martinez
Clara Biolo Thompson
Alexis Rundell
Sierra Schomer

ALTO SAX

Garrett Lewis
Anna Isaacson
Cassie Divine
Azreal Vollmar
Rebecca Dorvinen
Elizabeth Rogan
Meryl Luoma -Mannisto

TENOR SAX

Taylor Hawks
Carly Beyer
Danielle Christianson

BARI SAX

Nathan Miron
Emily Bauman
Thor Heskin
Devin Dumke

TRUMPET

Thomas Ziegler
Yrsala Peterson
Paul Leow
Dillon Bennetts
William Leischer
Andy Osborne
Charles Luoma-Mannisto
Mitch Janezic
James Olson

FRENCH HORN

Meghan Schultz
Harkin Massopust
Grace Feliz
Douglas O'Hagan
Mitchell Wiltzius
Kate Zorn
Jacob Johnson

TROMBONE

Garrett Alderton
Aaron Bergstrom
Boaz Vanlanen
Ethan Peplinski
Kristin Stacy
Avery Sommers
Bryce Horwitz
Mitchell DeLong
Karsten Kytta
Amber Raygo

BARITONE

Bryce Bishop
Sarah Premo

TUBA

Luke Dragseth
Charles Morton
Grace Bergstrom
Mike Gordier
Miranda Schomberg

***PERCUSSION

Ashley Aho
Bryce Brown
Zack Champion
Alanis Harris
Addy Howell
Megan Ludwig
Kobe Lorendo
Paul Santi
Reuberi Stoor
Cecilia Ware