

# **Band Virtual Learning**

# 6th Grade Clarinet

May 14th, 2020



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## Objective/Learning Target: Lincolnshire Posy by Percy Grainger

- Learn and understand why band "is the way it is."
- Introduce important band literature and recordings



## Warm Up Activity

Why are some pieces of music considered to be important?

Write three possible answers



- 1. Some compositions are considered "cornerstones" of band music. All band students should listen to them. Click <u>HERE</u> for a partial list of some of those important compositions.
- 2. In this lesson we'll learn about one of those important compositions: *Lincolnshire Posy by Percy Grainger*



#### Who was Percy Grainger?

- Australian-born Composer
- 1882-1961
- Wrote lots of music
- Most famous for <u>Country Gardens</u> and <u>Molly on the Shore</u>





Some people believe Grainger's' Lincolnshire Posy was his masterpiece.

This piece is 16 minutes long and has 6 movements (parts). Each movement is based on folk songs Grainger collected on his trip to Lincolnshire, England.



The different movements are named as follows:

**Movement 1:** Lisbon (Dublin Bay)

**Movement 2:** Horkstow Grange

**Movement 3:** Rufford Park Poachers

Movement 4: The Brisk Young Sailor (also known as "A Fair

Maid Walking")

**Movement 5:** Lord Melbourne

**Movement 6:** Lost Lady Found



# **Movement Description**

- \*Percy Grainger Described Lincolnshire Posy as "a bunch of musical wild flowers".
- \*He worked hard to preserve the originality of the folk songs by seeking out the habitat they represent.
  - Movement 1 "Plenty of lilt" is his requirement. It's a sailor's song in 6/8 time.
  - Movement 2 Folk song based on a local tragedy. The accent shifts throughout but never loses its flowing style.
  - Movement 3 The most complex. The melody is lead by the piccolo and clarinet. The tune is accompanied by itself in canon.



# **Movement Description Continued**

- Movement 4 Sprightly movement. The last part of the song is marked to be played 'angrily'.
- Movement 5 Is in free-time phrases meaning it's written out without bar lines! This gives free reign to rhythmic fluidity.
- Movement 6 Written in a fast but sturdy one-in-a-bar.



### **Activity**

Listen to each movement of the Lincolnshire Posy. After listening to each movement, write down your thoughts about what you listened to. What did you like? What role did your instrument play in the music? What was the character of each movement? What else did you hear?



After each movement, write down your thoughts about what you heard. Listen to each movement more than once if needed.

- Movement 1 <u>Lisbon</u> 0:00-1:30
- Movement 2 Horkstow Grange 1:31-4:26
- Movement 3 Rufford Park Poachers 4:28-9:09
- Movement 4 The Brisk Young Sailor 9:10-10:50
- Movement 5 Lord Melbourne (Mel-born) 10:51-14:16
- Movement 6 The Lost Lady Found 14:17-16:38



#### **Connecting the Dots!**

In the warm-up activity of this lesson, you were asked to think of some reasons that a piece of music might be considered to be important.

What did you come up with?

Does Lincolnshire Posy satisfy the criteria you wrote down?



#### What makes it a "Cornerstone?"

Throughout history, events are often labeled as important or noteworthy for very similar reasons. These reasons range from the importance to a certain culture to the evidence of cutting edge innovation. *Lincolnshire Posy by Percy Grainger* definitely satisfies some of these criteria for historical significance. This piece utilized common folk songs and transformed them into musical art. It was historically significant due to the detail Grainger put into creating the authenticity of the folk songs through his arrangement. It was very significant to the British culture because it is written about their folk songs! This piece of music is important!



#### More recordings:

US Navy Band conducted by Frederick Fennell
Eastman Wind Ensemble