

Folksongs Suite

Traditional Air and Folksong Arrangements

for bassoon and piano

by

Michael Cleaver

1. Scarborough Fair
2. Caller Herrin'
3. I Will Give My Love an Apple
4. The Lincolnshire Poacher



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To my wife, Sandra
who inspired my original arrangements of these songs.

These pieces for bassoon and piano owe their existence to earlier vocal arrangements, which I started to write in the early 1990s. At that time Sandra and I had devised and were about to perform an entertainment called *Sounds Delicious*. We presented our audiences with imaginary menus - in reality a programme of songs ranging in style from the classical to the popular, all containing references to food. Although the repertoire changed from audience to audience *Scarborough Fair*, *Caller Herrin'* and *I will Give my Love an Apple* appeared in the vast majority of these programmes.

The Lincolnshire Poacher comes from another themed concert, celebrating the 2008 Olympic Games. It was the sole representative of the "shooting" section.

It was in bringing these songs together for the publication of *Scarborough Fair and Other Songs* that it struck me that they would also form a satisfying instrumental suite. The choice of bassoon and piano was immediate and never in doubt. The pieces are refreshingly different from the song arrangements, yet remain true to their spirit.

Michael Cleaver

Scarborough Fair and Other Songs is also published by edition db

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Scarborough Fair

Are you going to Scarborough Fair?
Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme.
Remember me to one who lives there:
He (she) once was a true love of mine.

Tell him to find me an acre of land:
Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme.
Between the salt water and the sea strand:
Then he'll be a true love of mine.

Tell him to plough it with one ram's horn:
Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme.
And sow it all over with one peppercorn:
Then he'll be a true love of mine.

Tell him to reap it with a sickle of leather:
Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme.
And gather it all in a peacock's feather:
Then he'll be a true love of mine.

Anon.

Scarborough Fair

Trad arr. Michael Cleaver

Scorrevole

Bassoon

Piano

sempre p senza accento

con ped.

mp calmo

4

7

10

13

Musical score for measures 13-15. The top staff is a single bass clef line. The bottom two staves are a grand staff (bass and treble clefs). Measure 13 features a melodic line in the top staff starting with a half note, followed by rests, and ending with a quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of eighth notes in the bass clef and quarter notes in the treble clef. Dynamics include *p* (piano) in the top staff and *p* in the bottom staff.

16

Musical score for measures 16-18. The top staff is a single bass clef line. The bottom two staves are a grand staff. Measure 16 features a melodic line in the top staff with a half note, followed by quarter notes. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth notes in the bass clef and quarter notes in the treble clef. Dynamics include *p* (piano) in the top staff and *p* in the bottom staff.

19

Musical score for measures 19-21. The top staff is a single bass clef line. The bottom two staves are a grand staff. Measure 19 features a melodic line in the top staff with a half note, followed by quarter notes. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth notes in the bass clef and quarter notes in the treble clef. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano) in the top staff and *p* in the bottom staff.

22

Musical score for measures 22-24. The top staff is a single bass clef line. The bottom two staves are a grand staff. Measure 22 features a melodic line in the top staff with a half note, followed by quarter notes. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth notes in the bass clef and quarter notes in the treble clef. Dynamics include *p* (piano), *p dolce* (piano dolce), and *pp lontano* (pianissimo lontano) in the top staff and *p* in the bottom staff.