

Gayatri Sonata

for Viola and Piano

Viola part

for Electronic Music Readers

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि
धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात् ॥

Bill Robinson

Gayatri Sonata

for Viola and Piano

Composed Dec. 27, 2004–May 11, 2005

Arranged from the original cello version July 13, 2007

Duration: about 20 minutes

The middle movement is based on a setting I wrote of the Gayatri Mantra, a sacred mantra in Hinduism from the *Rig Veda*, for six-string violin and baritone in 2002. I ended up using only the melody from that original composition as the main theme. The words in Sanskrit are:

Om Bhur bhuvah svah
Tat savitur varenyam
Bhargo Devasya dheemahi
Dheeyo yo nah prachodayaat

Any translation is highly approximate, but it is something like; “Oh Divine Beings of all three worlds, we meditate on the glorious splendor of God. May He himself illumine our minds.”

The tempo marking of the first movement, “IWHWIFATBS”, stands for “It won’t hurt when I fall off this barstool”. Notice that this lyric fits the theme...

This sonata, originally for cello and piano, is in memory of my mother, Frances Vanderkooi Robinson Westman, who died in February 2005. She played both the cello and the piano. I also had in mind during the composition two cellists: David Vanderkooi, my uncle, and Jonathan Kramer, of the music department at NCSU.

The premiere performance was by Bonnie Thron, cellist, and Nancy Whelan, pianist, at Duke University in 2010.

The early editions of the score and part were in legal-size format. In 2022, I made a letter-size edition for score and part, as well as an edition of the viola part specifically for electronic music readers, with the part enlarged and including reduced piano staves.

Bill Robinson

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Viola part for
electronic music readers

Gayatri Sonata

First Movement

[6']

Bill Robinson

IWHWIFOTBS ♩ = 76

Viola

Piano

11

17

23

29

Gayatri Sonata

2

35

ff *mp*

mf

ff

41

f

ff

46

ff dim.

ff dim.

51

p

mp

p

mp

57

cresc.

(mf)

cresc.

(mf)

The image shows a page from a musical score for orchestra and piano. The score consists of six staves of music. The top staff is for the bassoon, starting at measure 62 with a dynamic of ff. The second staff is for the piano, also starting at measure 62 with a dynamic of ff. The third staff is for the piano, continuing from measure 62 with a dynamic of ff. The fourth staff is for the piano, starting at measure 66. The fifth staff is for the piano, continuing from measure 66. The sixth staff is for the piano, starting at measure 71. The music includes various dynamics such as ff, f, mp, mf, and p, as well as performance instructions like "ff" and "f". The score is written in common time, with some measures in 6/8 or 9/8 time indicated by a 9/8 symbol above the staff.

Gayatri Sonata

4

86

91

96

99

103

108

113

118

123

127

Gayatri Sonata

6

130

134

138

143

149

Gayatri Sonata

154

158

165

174

182

Gayatri Sonata

8 188 ~

195

200

206 Poco meno mosso $\text{♩} = 70$

211

Second Movement: Gayatri Mantra

[6'40"]

9

Om bhur buvaha swaha tat savitur varenyam, bhargo devasia dimahi, diho yo na ha prachodayat

With Devotion $\text{♩} = 80$

Violin

Piano

5

9

13

17

© 2005

Gayatri Sonata

10

20

23

ff

dim.

26

dim.

28

(mf) - - - - - *mp*

legato

(mf) - - - - - *mp* 6 6 *dolce*

30

33

35

37

39

42

Gayatri Sonata

The image shows five staves of musical notation for piano, arranged vertically. The first staff begins at measure 45, marked with *rubato*, dynamic *ff*, and a 3/4 time signature. The second staff starts at measure 46, marked with *ff*. The third staff begins at measure 47, marked with *a tempo* and dynamic *ff*. The fourth staff starts at measure 51, marked with *a tempo*, dynamic *p*, and *pp*. The fifth staff begins at measure 54, marked with dynamic *p* and a 3/4 time signature.

Gayatri Sonata

13

59

61

64

66

69

III. Rondo Cappuccino

[7:15]

Git Them Toes To Tappin' $\text{♩} = 80$

Viola

Piano

4

7

10

14

Gayatri Sonata

15

18

21

legato

p *cresc. p. a p.*

25

(mp)

(mp)

*

28

(mf)

(mf)

*

Re

*

Re

*

Re

31

f

ff

*

Re

*

Re

*

Gayatri Sonata

16

34

Musical score for measures 34-35 of the Gayatri Sonata. The top staff is in 13/8 time, treble clef, and has a basso continuo part below it. The bottom staff is in common time, treble clef. Measure 34 starts with a basso continuo line followed by a treble line. Measure 35 continues with the basso continuo line.

36

Musical score for measures 36-37 of the Gayatri Sonata. The top staff is in common time, treble clef. The bottom staff is in common time, treble clef. Measures 36 and 37 feature melodic lines with grace notes and slurs.

38

Musical score for measures 38-39 of the Gayatri Sonata. The top staff is in common time, treble clef. The bottom staff is in common time, treble clef. Measures 38 and 39 show complex melodic patterns with many grace notes and slurs.

40

Musical score for measures 40-41 of the Gayatri Sonata. The top staff is in 2/3 time, treble clef. The bottom staff is in common time, treble clef. Measures 40 and 41 show rhythmic complexity with various time signatures and grace notes.

42

Musical score for measures 42-43 of the Gayatri Sonata. The top staff is in 13/8 time, treble clef. The bottom staff is in common time, treble clef. Measures 42 and 43 continue the melodic and rhythmic patterns established earlier in the piece.

Gayatri Sonata

17

45

48

51

54

57

Gayatri Sonata

18

61

(8th)

ff

ff *ta* *ta* *ta* *ta* *ta*

64

ff *mp* *p*

ff *mf* *ta* *ta* *ta* *ta* *ta* *ta* ***

69

ff

ff

72

75

ff *ff*

Gayatri Sonata

19

79

legato

mp

mp legato

82

86

f

ff

92

rubato

ff → *p*

rit.

Gayatri Sonata

20

96

a tempo

Violin: 3/4 time, eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Piano: Common time, eighth-note chords.

100

Violin: Continuous eighth-note pattern. Piano: Eighth-note chords. Measure 104 key change to G major.

104

Violin: Eighth-note patterns. Piano: Eighth-note chords.

107

Violin: Eighth-note patterns. Piano: Eighth-note chords.

110

Violin: Eighth-note patterns. Piano: Eighth-note chords. Articulation: 'Xoo' and '*'.

Gayatri Sonata

21

113

116

119

dolce

122

125

22
128

Gayatri Sonata

Musical score for measures 128-130 of the Gayatri Sonata. The top staff shows a melodic line on the bassoon with grace notes. The bottom staff shows harmonic support from the piano. Measure 128 ends with a key change to 3/4 time.

131

Musical score for measures 131-133 of the Gayatri Sonata. The bassoon melody continues with dynamic markings *mp* and *ff*. The piano provides harmonic support throughout the section.

134

Musical score for measures 134-136 of the Gayatri Sonata. The bassoon melody reaches a forte dynamic *ff*. The piano harmonic support includes a dynamic *ff*. Measures 135 and 136 show sustained notes with grace notes.

136

Musical score for measures 136-138 of the Gayatri Sonata. The bassoon melody concludes with a dynamic *sfz*. The piano harmonic support includes a dynamic *sfz*. Measures 137 and 138 show sustained notes with grace notes.

139

Musical score for measures 139-141 of the Gayatri Sonata. The bassoon melody begins with a dynamic *sfz*. The piano harmonic support includes a dynamic *sfz*. Measures 140 and 141 show sustained notes with grace notes.

Gayatri Sonata

23

141

144

146

148

150 (*no rit.*)