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*Master
Ringer*

Sky-tinted Waters

A Suite for Handbells

Canoeing on West Bearskin Lake

Ice Fishing on Mille Lacs

Along the North Shore of Lake Superior

Composer's Notes

In the language of the Dakota Sioux, “Minnesota” means “sky-tinted water.” *Sky-tinted Waters* is a suite for handbells inspired by the beauty and serenity of the lakes throughout the state of Minnesota. The first movement, “Canoeing on West Bearskin Lake,” is a memoir of two summers when my family and I vacationed in the Arrowhead region of northern Minnesota, north of the town of Grand Marais, up the Gunflint Trail, in a small log cabin belonging to some friends of ours. Dense woods, rock formations, and wildlife surround the quiet, crystal-clear lake. The music paints a picture of that peaceful, relaxing, beautiful place.

The second movement, “Ice Fishing on Mille Lacs,” is subtitled “Sven and Ole’s Day Out.” The endless jokes and stories about Ole, Lena, and Sven originate in the upper Midwest, especially Minnesota, where so many Scandinavian immigrants settled. Mille Lacs (French for “million lakes”), halfway between the Twin Cities (Minneapolis/Saint Paul) and Grand Rapids, is a very large lake known as the “walleye capital,” and is famous for ice fishing. The music is delightfully comic, as it describes the beloved buddies, Sven and Ole, venturing out on the lake, drilling their fishing hole, waiting patiently, and excitedly pulling their supper out of the ice-cold water. Choose two members of your handbell ensemble to play Sven and Ole – plaid ear-flap caps (a la “Grumpy Old Men”) and Scandinavian accents will add to the fun! (Note: you may have to translate the vernacular to non-Minnesotan audiences!)

Along the north shore of Lake Superior, old lighthouses are a reminder of the more dangerous aspects of the great lake called “Gitche Gume.” This final movement is indeed a sailor song, and is a tribute to the countless lives lost on the perilous lake. The final measures return to the sounds of the opening movement, in honor of all those souls now sailing on more peaceful waters.

Alternate titles (in italics) are given for each of the movements, to make them more useable in a wider variety of settings.

Cathy Moglebust
September 2003

Sky-tinted Waters

4, 5, or 6 octaves
Handbells used: 48, (60), (67)

The notation shows a melody for handbells in treble and bass clefs. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. There are two sections of music marked 'optional' with brackets above them, indicating alternative fingerings or bell choices. The first optional section is in the treble clef, and the second is in the bass clef.

4 octave choirs omit notes in [].
5 octave choirs omit notes in < >.

Cathy Moglebust

I. Canoeing on West Bearskin Lake

I. Peaceful Waters

Peaceful, freely (♩ = c. 76)

The notation is for a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Peaceful, freely' with a quarter note equal to approximately 76 beats per minute. The music is divided into measures numbered 1 through 10. Measures 1-4 are marked with a piano (p) dynamic and include the instruction 'Randomly mallet suspended bells'. Measures 5-10 are marked with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic and include the instruction 'LV *'. The notation features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef, with various musical symbols such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

*If desired and available, a different set of bells with contrasting timbre may be used to play the melody notes through m. 26.

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Gently flowing (in tempo)

26 *f* LV *dim.* 27 28 5

29 30 31 *mf*

32 33 34 LV

35 36 37 LV

A musical score for a piano piece titled "Gently flowing (in tempo)". The score is written for piano (p) and consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system (measures 26-28) features a forte (f) dynamic and a "dim." (diminuendo) marking. The second system (measures 29-31) features a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The third system (measures 32-34) and the fourth system (measures 35-37) feature a piano (p) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs. A large, faint watermark "Piano" is visible across the center of the page.

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

ff LV

dim. e rit. al fine

Random malleting al fine

mp LV *al fine*

Peaceful, freely (♩ = c. 76)

(continue random malleting ad. lib. to fade)

*If desired and available, a different set of bells with contrasting timbre may be used to play the melody notes.

II. Ice Fishing on Mille Lacs (or Sven and Ole's Day Out)

II. Winter Frolics

Jaunty (♩ = 84)

The musical score is written for a piano and a single melodic instrument (likely a xylophone or mallets). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/2. The tempo is marked 'Jaunty' with a quarter note equal to 84 beats per minute. The score consists of 13 measures, numbered 1 through 13. Measures 1-3 are marked 'TD' (Tutti Drum) and 'f' (forte). Measures 4-6 are marked 'RT' (Right Tenor). Measures 7-10 are marked 'R' (Right). Measures 11-13 are marked 'RT' (Right Tenor). The score includes a large 'DRAFT' watermark across the center.

*Staccato notes may be played with mallets on the padded table.

28 RT 29 RT 30

Sven: "Start drillin'?" Ole: "You bet."

A little faster (♩ = 88)

31 32 R 33

34 35 36

37 38 39

40 *Slowly* 41 *p*

Sven: "Here vee go." Ole: "Shhh!"

p

R

Gently (♩ = 60)

42 LV 43 LV

p

44 LV 45 LV

rit. (Sven and Ole sigh) *a tempo*

46 LV 47 LV

rit.

III. Along the North Shore of Lake Superior

13

III. Song of the Lighthouse

Gently lilting (♩. = 54)

1 2 3 4

mf

LV B4's

5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

R

The musical score is written for piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of 21 measures. The first system contains measures 1-4, the second system contains measures 5-9, the third system contains measures 10-14, and the fourth system contains measures 15-21. The melody is primarily in the right hand, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with sustained notes and chords. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present in the first system. A performance instruction 'LV B4's' is located below the first system. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PREVIEW' is overlaid across the center of the page.

42 43 44 45 46

LV LV LV LV LV

47 48 49 50 51

LV LV LV LV LV

52 53 54 55

LV LV LV LV

56 57 58 59

LV LV LV R

ff_R

80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91

rall.

This musical score is for a piano piece, spanning measures 80 to 91. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is written for a grand piano, with a treble and bass staff. The first system (measures 80-83) begins with a forte fortissimo (ff) dynamic and a right-hand (R) marking. The second system (measures 84-87) continues the piece. The third system (measures 88-91) concludes with a 'rall.' (rallentando) marking. The score features various musical notations, including chords, single notes, and slurs. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PREVIEW' is overlaid across the center of the page.

92 93 94

molto rall.

Peaceful, freely (♩ = c. 76)
(melody must be heard over random malleting)

95 96 97

*After chord fades slightly,
random mallet softly to end*

mp (R)

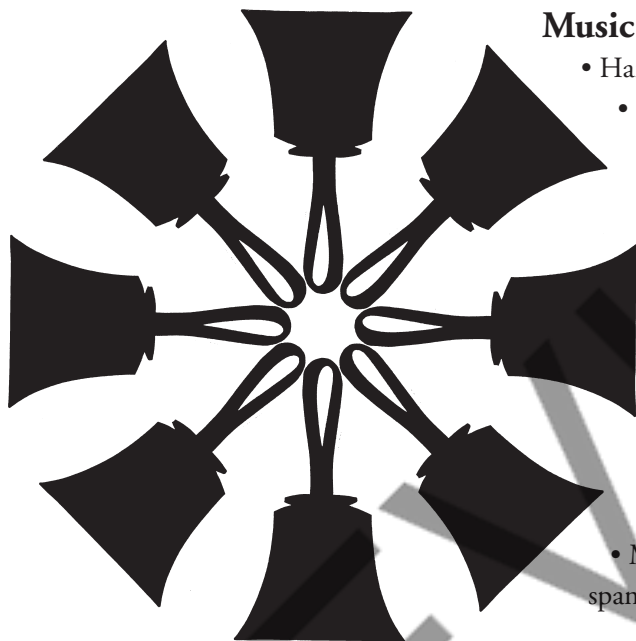
98 99 100

(continue random malleting
ad. lib. to fade)

PREVIEW

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