

Variations on a Hymn Tune

for solo viola

by

Frederick Slee

(1870–1954)

Frederick Slee studied with John Knowles Paine at Harvard in the 1890s and was active in Boston as a violist. While Slee pursued law as his profession, he maintained a life-long connection with music, studying composition with Nadia Boulanger and performing as violist with the Saybrook Quartet. Slee was an integral part of the music community in Buffalo, New York, and after his death his wife established the Slee/Beethoven String Quartet Cycle, which has presented many of the world's finest ensembles in performances of Beethoven's quartets.

This composition, which uses a tune by the American hymnist John Edgar Gould, exists in three different versions for solo viola in the Frederick Caldecott Slee Collection of Manuscript Scores at the State University of New York at Buffalo's Music Library. This edition is based on the most fully formed of the three versions.

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Frederick Slee
Edited by David M. Bynog

Andante ♩ = 66

Solo Viola

6 *mf*

11

14 3 3 3 1

18 *f* *p*

23 1 *marcato* *mf*

27 2 2 4

31 3 3 3

35 V 3 3 3

40

tr 2 tr tr

46

3 tr 3 tr

51

3 tr piu mosso

55

cresc.

59

f

62

rit.

65

Tempo Primo

1 2 2
4 3 4

72

2 3

79

3 3

83

rit. a tempo

87

f

93

marcato

99

rit.

105

Tempo Primo

sempre legato

f sonore

110

115

pesante

f *p*

120

pesante

ten. broad

f

125