

CLIVE STRUTT

# VARIATIONS

ON A

BOSNIAN FOLK SONG

Bass Oboe (Bassoon)



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A SI 014

# Clive Strutt

(1942-)

Clive Strutt was born in Aldershot, England, in 1942. For over thirty years he has been resident on the island of South Ronaldsay, in the Orkney Isles, off Scotland's north coast. His compositions (mostly orchestral, chamber, choral, and vocal works) have been performed in Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Russia, the UK and the USA.

Strutt studied at the Royal Academy of Music, London, with Sir Lennox Berkeley (composition) and Leighton Lucas (orchestration). He took piano and viola as second studies, and, as he puts it, “the other academic manifestations of music thought to be useful to a musician by the educational authorities of the time.”

Among his honours feature the Manson Bequest from the Royal Academy of Music (1964) for *Symphony No. 1 in E Minor*, the Carolan Award (1986) in the Celtic Harp Competition (Dinan, France) for *Hibernian Rhapsody* (a set of variations on two ancient Irish melodies for solo Celtic harp), and two prizes in the William Baird Ross competition for Church Music in Scotland (Second Prize [1987] for *The White Island*; Third Prize [1990] for *A Glastonbury Carol*).

Strutt is fascinated by the music of the Eastern Orthodox Church and has visited Mount Athos several times. Also a philatelist, he is an authority on the Universal Postal Union.

Clive Strutt was a close friend of the composer, harpist and oboist Derek Bell (of The Chieftains), also published by Amoris International.



## Variations on a Bosnian Folk Song

Bass Oboe (Bassoon)

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This unaccompanied piece was written (in 1995) for the multi-talented composer-musician Derek Bell (1935-2002) harpist for the celebrated Irish group “The Chieftains.” He was an expert upon all the harps (pedal and Celtic), the piano, and all the members of the oboe family of instruments. Derek travelled the world constantly as a performer and asked me for a piece to present the bass oboe in recitals where no accompanist was available.

I took a folk song from the city of Prozor (Bosnia; in the northern part of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton) as the theme for these six short variations. Its title 'Mila mati, ženi mene mlada!' translates approximately thus: 'Mother dear, find me a wife whilst I am still young!'

Each title hints at the structure or character of its variation and was inspired by my vision of Derek's mischievous personality and poetically Irish turn of phrase. He was a great wit and known to everyone as a true 'character'.

Clive Strutt  
1999

<i>Catacoustics</i>	A study of echoes (also known as cataphonics).
<i>Catadioptrics</i>	A study of the refraction of light.
<i>Hyperbaton</i>	A figure of speech using deviation of logical word order.
<i>Hysteron proteron</i>	A figure of speech, in which the natural word order is reversed, assumes a fictive double-barrelled form (Hysteron- Proteron) as the surname of the humorous imaginary character, Colonel the Hon. George Hysteron-Proteron, CB, DL, JP (1870-1942) invention of the author J.K. Stanford (1892-1971).
<i>Catachresis</i>	A figure of speech employing mixed metaphors.
<i>Hypallage</i>	A transferred epithet.



*Works by Clive Strutt published by Amoris International*

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