

Three Chinese Folk Songs

arranged for Bb Trumpet and Piano

1. A Horse Runs on the Mountain
2. Why the Flower Is So Red
3. A Small Embroidered Bag

by James Fry

for Chris Gekker

Notes: Three Chinese Folks Songs was first arranged for Qiong Fang, Shanghai Opera House soprano and specialist in combining Western and Chinese vocal methods. This expanded version for trumpet and piano incorporates melodic elaboration suitable for the trumpet. The accompaniment style of each song is suggested by the text, and the figuration is derived from the folksong melody.

1. “A Horse Runs on the Mountain” — The text paints an image of a horse running on a mountainside. A cloud rises in a column while the crescent moon illuminates the city below. A young man sets his eyes on a young woman. She is talented—and can take charge of the household! He yearns to court the one of his own choosing.

2. “Why Is the Flower So Red?” — This unusual song originates from far Western China, as is evident from the Middle Eastern characteristics of the melody. Why is the flower so red? Red is the fiery emblem of pure friendship and love. Why is the flower so fresh? Freshness is the symbol of youth.

3. “A Small Embroidered Bag” — A small embroidered bag is given as a token of love and commitment. As spring winds bend the poplar and willow tips and March blossoms appear in the peach orchard, a lover comes bringing a letter. He wants a small embroidered bag: “Embroider a boat and hoist the sail! Can you guess the meaning? Embroider a Mandarin duck perched on the riverside. You rely on me; I rely on you—together always.” She replies: “My lover is a young man and I am like an unfolding blossom. If you accept the small bag, my love, you must return early.”

Performance note: In “Why is the Flower So Red?” the ornaments—turns, mordents, appoggiaturas—are played in Baroque style. They may begin on or before the beat, depending on context.



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1. A Horse Runs on the Mountain

arr. James Fry

Andante $\text{♩} = 63$ **legato**

Bb Trumpet

mf

7

11

mp

15

3

21

mf

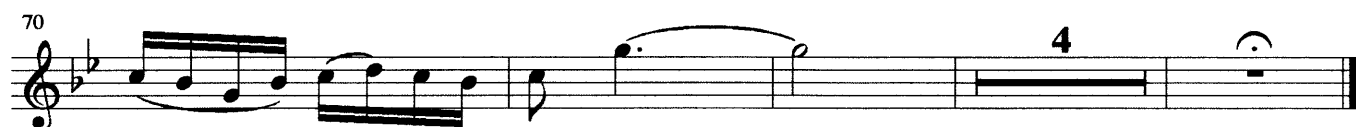
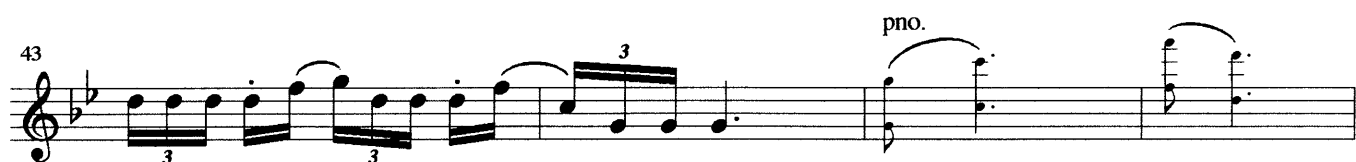
25

29

mp

33

3



2. Why the Flower Is So Red

Adagio ♩ = 48
3

mp *mute*

7 *mp*

11 *mf*

15

19 *piano* *mf*

24 3

28 *mp* 5 3 5

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, 2/4 time. It begins with a tempo marking of 'Adagio' and a metronome indication of 48 beats per minute. The first measure is a whole rest, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The score includes various dynamics: *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *piano*. A 'mute' instruction is placed above the first measure of the second system. The piece features several slurs, ties, and a long sustained note in the bass clef at measure 24. The final system includes triplet and quintuplet markings.

31 

34

mf

39 

43

mf

50

54 

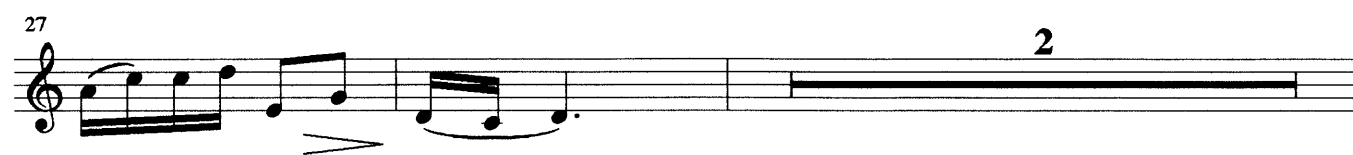
58



3. A Small Embroidered Bag

Andante ♩ = 56

piano



35

mp

Musical staff 35-38: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 35-36 contain triplet eighth notes. Measure 37 has a half note and a quarter note. Measure 38 has a half note and a quarter rest.

39

Musical staff 39-42: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 39-40 contain triplet eighth notes. Measures 41-42 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 42 ends with a half note.

43

mf

Musical staff 43-46: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measure 43 starts with a triplet eighth note. Measures 44-46 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 46 ends with a half note.

50

Musical staff 50-53: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 50-51 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measures 52-53 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 53 ends with a half note.

55

Musical staff 55-58: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 55-56 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measures 57-58 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 58 ends with a half note.

59

Musical staff 59-62: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 59-60 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measures 61-62 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 62 ends with a half note.

63

f

Musical staff 63-66: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 63-64 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measures 65-66 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 66 ends with a half note.

67

mp

Musical staff 67-70: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 67-68 contain triplet eighth notes. Measures 69-70 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 70 ends with a half note.

71

mf

Musical staff 71-74: Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measures 71-72 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measures 73-74 contain eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure 74 ends with a half note.

4