

Gayatri Sonata

**for
Violoncello
and Piano**

Cello part

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

Bill Robinson

Gayatri Sonata

for Violoncello and Piano

Composed Dec. 27, 2004—May 11, 2005

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 svahah
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, “IHWIFATBS”, 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. There is also an arrangement for viola.

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

The original 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 cello part specifically for electronic music readers, with the part enlarged and including reduced piano staves.

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Cello

Gayatri Sonata

First Movement

[6']

Bill Robinson

IWHWIFATBS $\bullet = 76$

10 *mp* *mf* *f*

16 *mf* *mp* *p* *cresc. p. a p.*

22 *(mp)* *(mf)* *f*

28 *ff*

33 *ff* *mp*

39 *f*

44 *ff*

49 *ff* *dim.* *p*

Gayatri Sonata

2

54

Musical staff 1: Bass clef, 8/8 time signature. Measures 54-60. Dynamics: *mp*, *cresc.*, *(mf)*.

61

Musical staff 2: Bass clef, 8/8 time signature. Measures 61-64. Dynamics: *ff*, *(mf)*.

65

Musical staff 3: Bass clef, 12/8 time signature. Measures 65-70. Dynamics: *ff*.

71

Musical staff 4: Bass clef, 8/8 time signature. Measures 71-75. Dynamics: *ffp*.

76

Musical staff 5: Bass clef, 12/8 time signature. Measures 76-81. Dynamics: *ff*.

82

Musical staff 6: Bass clef, 8/8 time signature. Measures 82-86. Dynamics: *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *ff*.

87

Musical staff 7: Bass clef, 8/8 time signature. Measures 87-92. Dynamics: *ff*.

93

Musical staff 8: Bass clef, 8/8 time signature. Measures 93-97. Dynamics: *ff*.

98

Musical staff 9: Bass clef, 8/8 time signature. Measures 98-103. Dynamics: *ff*, *pp*.

102 *dolce*
mp

108
mf

114

119

125
mf cresc.----- f----- ff

130

137
ff dim.----- p

144

152

Gayatri Sonata

4

158

f

166

f

174

ff

182

mf

190

f

197

mp

203

mf

$\bullet = 70$
Poco meno mosso

208

ff

212

pp

Second Movement: Gayatri Mantra

[6'40"]

Om bhur buvah(a) swah(a) tat savitur varenyam, bhargo devasia dimahi, diho yo nah(a) prachodayat

With Devotion $\text{♩} = 80$

f

mf

mp

mp

mp

ff

dim. (mf) mp

mf f

ff p mp

Gayatri Sonata

6

38

Musical staff 1: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 38-40. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).

41

Musical staff 2: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 41-43. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
rubato *a tempo* *rubato* *a tempo*
mp *mf cresc.*

44

Musical staff 3: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 44-45. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
f *ff* *rubato*

46

Musical staff 4: Bass clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 46-49. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
a tempo *rubato*

50

Musical staff 5: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 50-56. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
a tempo
ff *p* *pp* *p* *3*

57

Musical staff 6: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 57-59. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
3 *3* *ff*

60

Musical staff 7: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 60-63. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
3 *3* *ff* *p*

64

Musical staff 8: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 64-67. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
V

68

Musical staff 9: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measures 68-70. Key signature: one flat (B-flat).
fff *rit.* *pp* *attacca*

III. Rondo Cappuccino

[7:15]

7

Git Them Toes To Tappin'

$\text{♩} = 80$

ff

Measures 1-3: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 1 has a whole rest. Measures 2-3 contain eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs.

Measures 4-6: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Continuation of eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs.

Measures 7-9: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Continuation of eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs.

Measures 10-13: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 10 has a 2/4 time signature change. Measure 11 has a 3/4 time signature change. Continuation of eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs.

Measures 14-17: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 14 has a 2/4 time signature change. Continuation of eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs.

Measures 18-20: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Continuation of eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs.

Measures 21-25: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 21 has a 2/4 time signature change. Dynamics: *legato*, *cresc. p. a p.*, *p*.

Measures 26-28: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *(mp)*.

Measures 29-31: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *(mf)*, *f*.

Measures 32-34: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *ff*.

35

38

41

45

ff *pp*

48

pp | *ff*

51

| *pp*

54

57

p cresc. p. a p. (mp) (*mf*) *f*

64

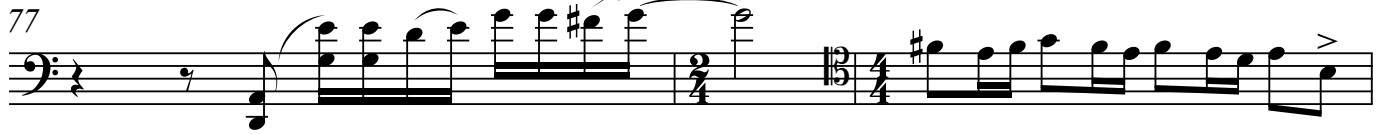
ff > *mp* *p*

70

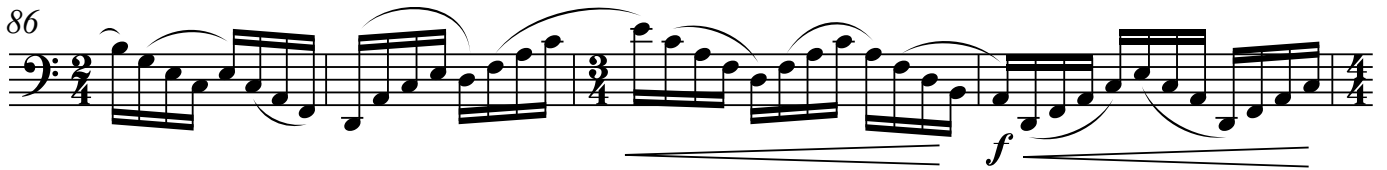
ff

73

Gayatri Sonata

77 

80 

86 

90 

93 

97 

101 

105 

109 

113 

116 

Gayatri Sonata

10

120 *mp dolce*

124

128

132 *mp*

134 *f ff*

137 *sfz*

140

143

146

148

150 (no rit.) *fff*