

Snorri Sigfús Birgisson:

# Fimm kvæði

(Íslensk þjóðlög fyrir slagverk og píanó)

## Five Poems

(Icelandic Folk Songs for Percussion and Piano)



## Fimm kvæði / Five Poems

1. Stúlkurnar ganga sunnan með sjá / Behold My Love
2. Ása gekk um stræti / Let Me Go, Never Let You Go
3. Katrínarkvæði / In Praise of Catherine
4. Státsmey sat í sorgum / Burning with Love
5. Ég veit eina baugalínu / Lover's Lament

### Instrumentation:

Percussion (1 player) and piano

Percussion instruments:

Vibraphone, wood block, three dobachi (h-m-l).  
The percussion instruments (except for the vibraphone)  
can be substituted by other related instruments.

# Fimm kvæði / Five Poems

Hugleiðingar um íslensk þjóðlög / Meditations on Icelandic Folk Songs

## 1. Stúlkurnar ganga sunnan með sjá / Behold My Love

Snorri Sigfús Birgisson (2008).

### Teneramente

♩ = c.94

Heimildir: munnleg geymd og þjóðlagasafn sr. Bjarna Þorsteinssonar.

Vibraphone

Piano

### Liberamente

Vib.

12

### Quasi improvvisando

18

### Liberamente

29

(piano)

### Quasi improvvisando

38

44

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

**Liberamente**

Vib. *p*

*mp* Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

59

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. *p*

**Quasi improvvisando**

64

Ped. Ped.

**Liberamente**

69

*p* Ped. Ped. Ped. *mp* Ped. Ped.

74

*p* Ped. Ped. Ped. *p* Ped. Ped. *mp* Ped. Ped.

78

*mp* Ped. Ped. Ped. *p* Ped. Ped. *mp* Ped. Ped.

85

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

92

Ped. Ped. Ped.

## 2. Ása gekk um stræti / Let Me Go, Never Let You Go

Snorri Sigfús Birgisson (2008).

Heimild: Guðný Jónsdóttir (f.1884)  
frá Rannveigarstöðum í S-Múlasýslu.

Wood-block  
(or another  
wood instrument  
of indefinite pitch).

$\text{♩} = c.144$

1 **6**/**8**

2

*pp*

7

15

*poco a poco cresc.*

23

31

39

47

55

63

69

75

*f*

81

The musical score is written for a wood-block instrument in 6/8 time. It begins with a tempo marking of approximately 144 beats per minute. The piece starts with a dynamic of *pp* (pianissimo) and a *poco a poco cresc.* (gradually increasing) instruction. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some triplet patterns. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 1, 7, 15, 23, 31, 39, 47, 55, 63, 69, 75, and 81 marked. The final section, starting at measure 75, features a dynamic of *f* (forte) and includes five-measure rests (marked with a '5') over the first five notes of each measure.

Percussion

87

*poco a poco dim.*

Musical staff for measures 87-94. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 88, 90, and 92. The dynamic marking *poco a poco dim.* is written below the staff.

95

Musical staff for measures 95-102. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 96, 98, and 100.

103

Musical staff for measures 103-110. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 104, 106, and 108.

111

Musical staff for measures 111-118. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up.

119

Musical staff for measures 119-126. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up.

127

Musical staff for measures 127-134. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up.

135

Musical staff for measures 135-142. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 136, 138, and 140.

142

Musical staff for measures 142-149. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 143, 145, and 147.

149

Musical staff for measures 149-156. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 150, 152, and 154.

156

Musical staff for measures 156-163. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 157, 159, and 161. The dynamic marking *pp* is written below the staff.

161

Musical staff for measures 161-168. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 162, 164, and 166.

167

Musical staff for measures 167-174. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 168, 170, and 172.

171

Musical staff for measures 171-178. The notation consists of eighth and quarter notes with stems pointing up. There are rests in measures 172, 174, and 176.

## 3. Katrínarkvæði / In Praise of Catherine

Snorri Sigfús Birgisson (2008).

**Sostenuto ... teneramente ...**Heimild: Guðfinna Þorsteinsdóttir / Erla - (f.1891-1972)  
frá Skjögrestöðum (S. Múlasýslu).

♩ = c.54

With very slow motor (ad lib.)

1 Solo

Vib. 

*pp* (On the nodes, until *p* in m. 15)  
con ped. →

7 

13 

*p*

19 

24 

29 

*mp*

34 

39 

*ppp*

with motor (ad lib):  
slow ...slower...very slow



# 4. Státsmey sat í sorgum / Burning with Love

Snorri Sigfús Birgisson (2008).

Heimildir: Guðmundur Þorsteinsson (1901-1989)  
frá Brennistöðum (S. Múlasýslu)  
og Þjóðagasafn sr. Bjarna Þorsteinssonar.

1  $\text{♩} = c.120$  **molto rall.** **A tempo**

Vib.

10

19

27

35

43

50

62

## 5. Eg veit eina baugalínu / Lover's Lament

Snorri Sigfús Birgisson (2008).

Heimildir: Guðný Jónsdóttir (f.1884)  
og Þjóðlagasafn sr. Bjarna Þorsteinsonar

3 Dobachi (h-m-l)  
(or a trio of other  
metal instruments  
of indefinite pitch).

♩. = c.120

*f*

1. v.

6

*pp*

1. v.

*p*

1. v.

12

*pp*

(poco)

1. v.

1. v.

1. v.

24

1. v.

36

*p*

1. v.

43

*pp*

(poco)

1. v.

1. v.

53

1. v.

63

*p*

1. v.

1. v.

1. v.

(poco)

(poco)

75 l.v.

82 *pp*

91 l.v.

102 *p* l.v.

114 l.v.

128 *ppp* l.v.

140 l.v.

151 l.v. **Ritenu** **A tempo** *pp*