

Fantasia on Greensleeves

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*arranged by Paul De Bra for
accordion quintet (1, 2, 3, 4, bass)*

Greensleeves is an old English ballad, probably dating back to the 16th century, supposedly composed by Henry VIII for his future queen Anne Boleyn. The song became popular in the Netherlands in the version by Mantovani, used in the radio show Candlelight.

The work “Fantasia on Greensleeves” appears in act IV of the opera “Sir John in Love”, by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958). It adds a short intro, and an intermezzo in different key and time signature.

The arrangement for accordion quintet contains sections with bellow shake and tremolando, making it less easy to play than it may sound.

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A recording by Professor P is available on YouTube.

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Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

Adapted from the opera "Sir John in Love"

Ralph Vaughan Williams
arr. Paul De Bra

♩ = ca. 140

Lento

intro rubato

⊕ light tremolo (flute)

poco a poco rit.

Acc. 1

Acc. 2

Acc. 3

Acc. 4

Bass

pp sustain all notes

pp pizz.

pp pizz.

pp

♩ = ca 120

A **Lento moderato**

I

II

III

IV

B

pp no, or very light (div. between ⊕ and ⊕ is also possible)

p

⊕ div. if needed

pp simile (arpeggio's)

pizz. (every chord long decay)

pp base note + chord (on S.B.)
Fm Fm Fm Fm Fm Fm Es Es Fm Fm Cm Cm

pizz. (every note long decay)

pp

Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

B div. if needed

12

I

II

III

IV

B

Fm Fm Es Cm Fm C F As As Es Cm

arco pizz.

18

I

II

III

IV

B

Fm Fm Cm Cm As As Es Cm Fm C F F

arco pizz. sempre pizz.

24

C (bellow shake)

I

II

III

IV

B

As As Es Cm Fm Fm Cm Cm As As

(very) light tremolo, or else (bellow shake)

Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

♩ = ca. 90
Allegretto

29 **D**

sfpp
tremolando, start with upper note

sfpp
tremolando, start with lower note

⊙ light tremolo, or else ⊙

sfpp ⊙

f > *mp*

Es Cm Fm C F

35

(tip: use triplets to play 24 notes per bar instead of 32)

mp

(tip: use triplets to play 24 notes per bar instead of 32)

pizz.

p

41 **E**

p

⊙ pizz.

p

Fantasia on "Greensleeves" **F**

46

I
II
III
IV
B

f
arco
p
arco
p

51

I
II
III
IV
B

(non cresc.)
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.

56

Solo Cadenza

rall.

I
II
III
IV
B

mp
3
rall.

Lento moderato

Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

poco a poco rit. (ad lib)

60 **G**

I *p*

II *pp* sustain all notes

III *pp* sustain all notes

IV *pp* pizz.

B *pp* pizz.

65 **H**

I *pp* (or div. between \odot and \ominus)

II *p* \odot div. if needed

III *pp* simile (arpeggio's)

IV *pp* base note + chord (on S.B.)
Fm Fm Fm Fm Fm Fm Es Es Fm Fm

B *pp*

71 **I**

I arco

II pizz.

III

IV Cm Cm Fm Fm Es Cm Fm C F F As As

B

Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

77

I

II

III

IV

B

Es Cm Fm Fm Cm Cm As As Es Cm Fm C

83

I

II

III

IV

B

pp

J (bellows shake)

sempre pizz.

J (bellows shake)

F F As As Es Cm Fm Fm Cm Cm

88

I

II

III

IV

B

rit. (ad lib.)

pp

pp

pp

As As Es Cm Fm C F