Jimmy's Sketchbook Vol. 4 "Patricia"

By George Wyle Arranged and Transcribed by Jimmy Wyble

George Wyle was the choral director or music director on several live TV shows that Jimmy worked during the 1960's and early 1970's. They were the "Dinah Shore Chevy Show", "The Andy Williams Show" and "The Flip Wilson Show". George Wyle is best known for two compositions. First, he wrote the "Ballad of Gilligans Island" television theme song. The royalties for that theme song are probably staggering. Second, he wrote the Christmas classic "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year". "Patricia" was originally written and performed as work for piano and orchestra and was used as music on the Flip Wilson show. Jimmy said that the band often performed this work to entertain the live audience during the commercial breaks. Jimmy recalled that this song might have been named after George Wyle's daughter. Jimmy played the guitar part in the orchestra but loved the music so much that with George's permission, he made a transcription and guitar arrangement of the piano part. Jimmy told me that he arranged it right off of the piano chart. The orchestral parts are long gone and all we have left is Jimmy's arrangement for solo guitar. I searched the ASCAP records and could not find this piece listed for George Wyle. There were 410 other songs registered by ASCAP for George Wyle. There were a number of songs simply listed as Flip Wilson cues and I am sure that this song probably resides in one of those portfolios.

To hear Jimmy speak of George Wyle, it is obvious that they were not only very good friends, but they also had an enormous respect for each other as professional musicians. George Wyle passed away in 2003.

This is the only arrangement or composition that I am aware of by Jimmy that has the sixth string tuned down to low "D". Jimmy had to work the song in this key to be able to play it with the orchestra. "Patricia" is written in a classic rondo form ABACA.

I have no idea of the tempo for this composition; however, I like this arrangement in a medium tempo but please pay attention to the fermatas and let this music breath. I played it for Jimmy and he said that my tempo sounded correct. That is the tempo on the recording I made to go with this arrangement.

This music has a lot of movement in different voices and I am sure that is why Jimmy was drawn to this music and made an arrangement out of it. I also feel like this is a perfect type of arrangement to play for background music at a restaurant or reception. It is a very relaxing composition and I am sure this is why it was played often on "The Flip Wilson Show". I might have to start watching old reruns just to see if I can catch it.

I hope that this arrangement will become part of your repertoire as well.

David Oakes July 2008

PATRICIA



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