

Instrumentation

About the Story & H.C. Andersen

Hans Christian Andersen (1805-1875) was born and raised in Odense, Denmark, the only child of working class parents. He had to support himself at an early age, which included working for a tailor and an apprenticeship to a weaver. By the age of 14 he had moved to Copenhagen and was accepted to the Royal Danish Theater. However, it soon became clear that his great talent lay in writing.

Andersen published his first story in 1822 at the age of seventeen. Despite his gift, his school years were difficult and torturous. As a young man, he spent considerable time traveling around Europe, publishing various literary works, and enjoying some degree of success. Finally, in 1835 he began publishing the first of his fairy tales. Their quality was not immediately recognized.

By the 1840's the tales had become quite popular, and Andersen began to enjoy considerable acclaim. During his lifetime he was internationally renowned, and even designated a "National Treasure."

The Ugly Duckling is one of Andersen's most famous stories.

This setting was commissioned by Dorrit Matson for the New York Scandinavian Music Festival.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Pete for his continuing love and constant support "above and beyond." My deepest gratitude to the many special friends who have encouraged and helped to cultivate my love of great stories, as well as the writing of music to go with them.

French Horn, also:

Woodblock
Small hand drum
Vibra-slap
Squeeze-type horn
Ride cymbal, with soft mallet, also with metal coin
Rain Stick
Drum (ideally a floor tom) & drumstick

Harp, also one wood drumstick or similar stick (tuning fork may also be used)

Storyteller (may also be performed by the harpist)

To the Performer

The markings in this piece indicate as closely as possible how I hear it. Please take these markings as suggestions only. What makes this music come alive may be different for each person.

PLEASE DO NOT PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

Thank you!

Score

The Ugly Duckling

a Story from Hans Christian Andersen

Prologue

$\text{♩} = c. 72$

cantabile

Alyssa Reit

Horn in F

Harp

8

The Ugly Duckling-Score

#1 The Countryside Underscore #1

$\text{♩} = c. 88$

(ad lib depending on audience age, etc.)
1st X: Let's start by imagining the country in the summertime.

1st X: Who has been to the country?

2nd X: Have you ever seen a farm yard full of chickens, and geese and ducks?

2nd X: Have you ever been on a farm?

marcato

(repeat back to 1st ms)

1st X: What might you find in the country near a farm?

1st X: Maybe woods and fields?

2nd X: What about rivers and streams?

legato

2nd X: And lakes and ponds?

(repeat back to [A])

Well, those are just the kinds of places ducks love.

#2 Countryside Underscore #2

Our story starts out in the county, where there was a beautiful pond, next to a big, old house right by a farm.

Tall grass grew all around that pond.

This grass grew so high that a child could stand in its midst and not be seen.