# BLACK FOREST SUITE 

## About This Composition

The Black Forest, or "Schwarzwald," is located in southeastern Germany in the area of Freiberg. It is a beautiful area with thick woods, high hills and colorful people. The melodies in this setting are very popular in this area of Germany.

Annie from Tharau is a beautiful song sung by a young man, head over heels in love, who tells his lady, in essence, "You are my everything." The poignant, sentimental melody is preceded by a four-measure introduction that sets the mood for the song. This introduction is later used as a bridge to the restatement, and then as a coda. This song is known and loved throughout the world.

Wanderer Medley contains several songs about good times and happiness. The title song reflects the carefree attitude of a young man who is beginning to wander and explore, following the ancient tradition in much of Europe for a young man to spend a year traveling. With a flower in his hat and his staff in his hand, he sets forth to seek fame, fortune and love.

The Hole into Heaven is a game-song equivalent to the U.S. folk song If You Get to Heaven Before I Do. The butcher, the chimney sweep, the carpenter, the blacksmith and others are all part of the procession, climbing into heaven. After each person parades by, the chorus sings, "Thus, we will all go together through the hole into heaven." The verse should be played with a gradual accelerando and the chorus should have a very strong rhythmic drive.

Homesick for the Lowlands describes the many advantages of living in the lower, fertile fields rather than in the highlands. A strong rhythmic pulse is essential for an effective performance.

## About the Composer

Walter J. Halen is professor emeritus from Central Missouri State University and now resides in Lee's Summit, Missouri, where he is a freelance composer, clinician, performer, and a private teacher of violin and viola. Dr. Halen was professor of music at CMSU for 22 years, teaching composition, violin and viola and conducting the university symphony. Prior to his CMSU appointment, he was on the staff of Drury College in Springfield, Missouri, and was concertmaster of the Springfield Symphony. He attended Miami, Ohio, and Northwestern Universities before earning his doctorate from Ohio State University in 1969. Among his many awards are two teacher recognition awards from the Music Teachers National Association, the Achievement in Music Award from Ohio University, the Arts and Sciences Distinguished Faculty Award and the Byler Distinguished Service Award from CMSU. In 1992, he was chosen to be the first recipient of the "Artist Teacher" award from the Missouri unit of the American String Teachers Association. He was the Missouri Music Teachers Association "Composer of the Year" in 1976 and was the Missouri-ASTA Commissioned Composer for a new composition for the MMEA High School String Orchestra in 1991.

## BLACK FOREST SUITE

I. Annie from Tharau<br>Aennchen von Tharau

German Folk Song


Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb .


Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb .


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Vln. 1


Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb .


VIn. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.





Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb .


VIn. 1


Vln. 2

Vla.
vcl.
cb.

VIn. 1


59
Begin slowly, grad. accel

VIn. 1

Vin. 2

Va.

Vcl.

Cb.



Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb .



VIn. 1
ln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb .


Vln. 1


Vln. 1

Vln. 2


Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla,

Vcl.


