

NACHWORT

GEORGE GERSHWIN (1898–1937) ist vor allem für seine vielen Lieder, seine Kompositionen für die Theater am Broadway, die Oper *Porgy and Bess* sowie für seine 1924 entstandene und sofort sehr erfolgreiche Komposition *Rhapsody in Blue* bekannt. Letztere ist wahrscheinlich auch sein populärstes Werk.

I got Rhythm aus dem Jahr 1930 enthält einige kurze Motive, die sich für weitergehende Ausarbeitungen anbieten. Die Transkription für Orgel entstand als ein humoriges Stück mit der Intention, einem klassischen Orgelkonzert eine gewisse Leichtigkeit zu verleihen.

Die Eröffnungssphrase erscheint zunächst imitiert, gefolgt von der Vorstellung des harmonisch neu gewandeten Themas. Es folgen vier rhythmisch unterschiedliche Variationen, die in eine fugierte Exposition münden, auf welche eine abschließende, schillernde Toccata mit dem Thema im Pedal folgt.

Twickenham, im Januar 2009

Harold Britton





BIOGRAFIE

HAROLD BRITTON (1923–2022) wurde in Bristol geboren und erhielt an der dortigen Kathedrale Orgelunterricht bei Clifford Harker. Später wurde er von Dr. Harold Darke, Professor für Orgel am Royal College of Music in London, unterrichtet. Als Mitglied der Orgelklasse von Fernando Germani an der Academia Musicale Chigiano in Siena studierte er Werke von Max Reger und Franz Liszt; in Paris studierte er bei Marcel Dupré dessen Kompositionen.

Harold Britton war einige Jahre als städtischer Organist in Walsall tätig. In seinen Konzerten musiziert er zusammen mit Organisten und Instrumentalisten aus aller Welt. Er gibt Konzerte in den meisten bedeutenden Veranstaltungsorten des Landes, so z. B. in den Kathedralen von Ely, Hereford, Chester und St Paul's, am St. John's College in Cambridge, in der Royal Albert Hall in Birmingham, sowie der Town Hall und der St. Georges Hall in Liverpool.

Pierre Cochereau, bei dem er Improvisation studierte, lud Britton ein, in der Kathedrale Notre Dame in Paris fünf Konzerte zu geben und der Jury des Chartres-Wettbewerbs beizutreten. Konzertreisen führten ihn nach Amerika, Kanada, Jugoslawien, Deutschland, Frankreich und in die Tschechoslowakei.

ÜBERSETZUNG DER ENGLISCHEN SPIEL- UND REGISTRIERANWEISUNGEN

Gt. (Great)	Hauptwerk
Sw. (Swell)	Schwellwerk
Ch. (Choir)	Positiv
   	
Celeste	Vox coelestis
coupled	gekoppelt
Diapasons	Prinzipal und Gedackt 8'
Flute(s)	Flöte(n)
full / full Organ	Tutti auf dem angegebenen Werk / Tutti
or	oder
reed(s)	Zunge(n)
(coupled) to	(gekoppelt) an
Trumpet	Trompete

EPILOGUE

GEORGE GERSHWIN (1898–1937) is chiefly known for his numerous songs, music for the Broadway theatres, the opera *Porgy and Bess*, and the *Rhapsody in Blue* written in 1924, which immediately became a success. It is perhaps his best known work.

I got Rhythm (1930) contains short motives which can be developed more extensively. The transcription for organ was written as a “fun” piece, in order to provide a little levity during a classical organ concert.

The opening phrase is heard in imitation, followed by the announcement of the theme re-harmonised. Four variations follow in various rhythms, giving way to a fugal exposition leading to a scintillating toccata. The theme being assigned to the pedals.

Twickenham, January 2009

Harold Britton

BIOGRAPHY

HAROLD BRITTON (1923–2022) was born in Bristol, and studied the organ at the Cathedral with Clifford Harker, later taking tuition from Dr Harold Darke, professor of organ at the Royal College of Music in London. Later he attended the organ class of Fernando Germani at the Academia Musicale Chigiano in Siena, studying the works of Max Reger and Franz Liszt. Afterwards the works of Marcel Dupré were studied in Paris with the composer.

Harold Britton held the post of Civic Organist in Walsall for a number of years. His concerts have included many international organists and instrumentalists. He has given recitals in most of the country’s important venues, which include Ely Cathedral, Hereford, Chester, and St Paul’s Cathedrals, St John’s College in Cambridge, the Royal Albert Hall Birmingham, Town Hall and St Georges Hall Liverpool.

Pierre Cochereau, with whom he studied improvisation, invited him to give five recitals at the Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris and to serve on the jury of the Chartres International Organ Competition. Recitals have included visits to America, Canada, Yugoslavia, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and France.

Variationen über/Variations on "I got rhythm"

Sw. 8', 4', 2', Mix., reed 8'
Gt. 8', 4', Sw. coupled
Ped. 16', 8', Gt. coupled

von/by George Gershwin

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gesetzlich
verboten



Harold Britton
1923–2022

Allegro moderato

Manual

Gt. *f*

Pedal

5

r.H.

l.H.

9

Sw. *mf*

15

Gt.

$\text{♩} = 104$

43

Gt. 8', 4', 2²/₃'Sw. 8', 4', Oboe
> or Trumpet 8'

Musical score for measures 43-45. The score is written for three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 104. The first staff (Guitar) has a treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff (Swamp/Oboe/Trumpet) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests. The third staff (Swamp to Pedal) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests. Measure 45 ends with a repeat sign.

Sw. to Ped.

46

Musical score for measures 46-48. The score is written for three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first staff (Guitar) has a treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff (Swamp/Oboe/Trumpet) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests. The third staff (Swamp to Pedal) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests.

49

Musical score for measures 49-51. The score is written for three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first staff (Guitar) has a treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff (Swamp/Oboe/Trumpet) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests. The third staff (Swamp to Pedal) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests. Measure 51 ends with a repeat sign.

52

Musical score for measures 52-54. The score is written for three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first staff (Guitar) has a treble clef and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff (Swamp/Oboe/Trumpet) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests. The third staff (Swamp to Pedal) has a bass clef and contains a bass line with eighth notes and rests.

Allegro ♩ = 100

Flutes 8', 2' (1¹/₃' optional)

First system of music, measures 69-71. The top staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with eighth-note triplets and sixteenth-note pairs. The bottom two staves (bass clef) are mostly empty, with some notes in the first measure.

Second system of music, measures 72-74. The top staff continues the melodic line with eighth-note triplets and sixteenth-note pairs. The bottom two staves are mostly empty.

Third system of music, measures 75-77. The top staff continues the melodic line with eighth-note triplets and sixteenth-note pairs. The bottom two staves are mostly empty.

Fourth system of music, measures 78-80. The top staff continues the melodic line with eighth-note triplets and sixteenth-note pairs. The bottom two staves are mostly empty.

179 **Allegro** ♩ = 112

Sw. (full)

183

cresc.

185