

KARUK

Orchestral Variations on a Native Californian Theme



composed by
Theo Radić



Syukhtun Editions

PREFACE

Karuk means “upriver” in the language of the same name, referring to the Klamath river of northern California, contrasting with their word *yurúk*, “downriver”, which also refers to their Yurok neighbors downstream. These orchestral variations are based on my piece for solo guitar *Love-magic Chant*. The original notation for the Karuk melody appears among the “songz” gathered by Jaime de Angulo decades ago in his research into the music of northern Native California, published as *La Musique des Indiens de la Californie du Nord*, Paris, 1931. Ethnomusicologist/composer Peter Garland researched, assembled and translated this valuable material and published it as *Jaime de Angulo: The Music of the Indians of Northern California*. Two Karuk love songs tell how a girl is missed terribly by her lover after she was abducted from her home and taken to Samfasiskúu (San Francisco) by white slave hunters. The solo guitar variations and these orchestral variations originate from the following measures from de Angulo’s book:

N° 23. Chant magique pour attirer l'amour. 

66 : ♩ A pleine voix et très accentué



Hé — ya o - yé Hé — ya o - yé Hé — ya
bé — ya o - yé Hé — ya o - yé Hé — ya o - yé
Hé — ya hé — ya hé — ya hé — ya hé — ya o - yé.

Ce chant porte le nom de: HOMME-VAUTOUR. La consonne h possède la valeur d'une expiration d'appui.

(cover: Karuk basket from circa 1925)

LA MUSIQUE DES INDIENS

DE LA

CALIFORNIE DU NORD,

PAR

JAIME DE ANGULO ET M. BÉCLARD D'HARCOURT.

Extrait du *Journal de la Société des Américanistes*,
Nouvelle Série, t. XXIII, 1931, p. 189-228.

AU SIÈGE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ,

PARIS, RUE DE BUFFON, 61.

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1931

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Allegro

3

Flutes

Oboes

Clarinets

Bassoons

French horns

Trombones

Trumpets

Vibraphone

Violins

Violins

Violas

Cellos

Basses

KARUK

6 9

fl

ob

cl

bsn

frhn

tr

trpt

vib

vln

vln

vla

clo

b

solo clarinet

mf