

Postcards From the Crater

*Easy to Intermediate Divertimentos
for solo Mandolin or Violin*

by
John Goodin

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Introduction

For over 25 years I have been enjoying the music composed by James Oswald in the middle of the 18th century. Even before I knew his name I had learned to play his “Flowers of Edinburgh” as a “traditional” fiddle tune and the three divertimentos for “2 guittars or 2 mandelins” which were published as anonymous works in 1982 by Plucked String Inc. and edited by Neil Gladd.

As I came to know more of Oswald’s work I often found myself writing “new” music clearly inspired by Oswald’s love of melody and simplicity. In January 2016, while working on a mandolin-oriented edition of Oswald’s own *12 Divertimentis for the Guittar* for Mel Bay, I began writing some short pieces intentionally modeled after Oswald’s approach.

These *Postcards From the Crater* follow Oswald in being purposely accessible to the amateur musician. Each of the Postcards contains three short sections. Oswald would freely re-use tunes in his own work and I have also adapted a few of my older tunes for individual movements. One entire piece, here entitled “Dug Road,” is a solo version of a piece previously published as “Divertimento in G” in my *Midwestern Mandolin Duos* book from 2010. The great majority of these notes, however, were written in 2016 and most of these pieces were road tested during my monthly solo mandolin gigs here in Decorah.

I have chosen to provide suggested tempo markings but I have intentionally not added dynamics or other technical indications. I encourage the player to freely experiment with different approaches to playing and performing these pieces. Enjoyment is the goal.

Postcards From the Crater takes its title from the recent discovery that Decorah, Iowa, and much of the surrounding countryside, sits on the site of a huge meteor impact crater, created nearly a half billion years ago. The titles of the individual Postcards come from places of special significance to me within our crater neighborhood.

John Goodin, October 2016

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Twin Bridges

John Goodin

1.

$\text{♩} = 132$

The first section of the music is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and common time (C). It consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 132. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The second and fourth staves include first and second endings, indicated by bracketed lines and repeat signs. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

2.

$\text{♩} = 126$

The second section of the music is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 126. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The second and third staves include first and second endings, indicated by bracketed lines and repeat signs. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

3.

 $\text{♩} = 180$

1. 2.

1. 2.

Butterfly Prairie

John Goodin

1.

♩=120

First system (measures 1-4): Treble clef, key of D major (F#), 4/4 time. Measure 1 starts with a repeat sign. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Second system (measures 5-8): Continues the melody. Measure 8 has a first ending bracket labeled '1.' and a second ending bracket labeled '2.'.

Third system (measures 9-12): Continues the melody. Measure 12 has a first ending bracket labeled '1.' and a second ending bracket labeled '2.'.

Fourth system (measures 13-16): Continues the melody. Measure 16 ends with a double bar line.

2.

♩=136

Fifth system (measures 17-20): Treble clef, key of D major (F#), 3/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Sixth system (measures 21-24): Continues the melody. Measure 24 has a first ending bracket labeled '1.' and a second ending bracket labeled '2.'.

Seventh system (measures 25-28): Continues the melody. Measure 28 has a first ending bracket labeled '1.' and a second ending bracket labeled '2.'.

Eighth system (measures 29-32): Continues the melody. Measure 32 ends with a double bar line.

3.

♩=110



Phelps Park Bandshell

John Goodin

1.

$\text{♩} = 90$

1. 2.

2.

$\text{♩} = 105$

1. 2.

3.

$\text{♩} = 180$

The musical score consists of three staves in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 180$. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains a repeat sign after the first measure, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff continues the melody and includes a first ending bracketed over the last two measures, followed by a double bar line and a second ending bracketed over the next two measures. The third staff also contains a repeat sign after the first measure and ends with a double bar line. The fourth staff continues the melody and includes a first ending bracketed over the last two measures, followed by a double bar line and a second ending bracketed over the next two measures, which concludes with a final double bar line.

Twin Springs Meadow

1.

John Goodin

$\text{♩} = 110$

1. 2.

2.

$\text{♩} = 80$

1. 2.

3.

♩=180

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major (one flat). The tempo is marked as ♩=180. The score consists of four staves. The first staff contains the first four measures. The second staff contains measures 5 through 8, with a first ending bracketed over measures 7 and 8, and a second ending bracketed over measures 9 and 10. The third staff contains measures 11 through 14, starting with a repeat sign. The fourth staff contains measures 15 through 18, also starting with a repeat sign and ending with a double bar line.

Pines West

1.

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$\text{♩} = 100$

The image displays a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree" in G major, 4/4 time. The score is written for four staves. The first staff is the melody, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a repeat sign. The second staff is the first accompaniment, also in G major, featuring a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It includes a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff is the second accompaniment, in G major, featuring a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It includes a triplet of eighth notes. The fourth staff is the third accompaniment, in G major, featuring a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It includes a first and second ending bracket.

2.

$\bullet = 110$

1. 2.

3.

♩=160

Musical score for a piece in 4/4 time, key of D major, tempo 160. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a repeat sign. The third staff begins with a repeat sign and continues the melody. The fourth staff continues the melody and ends with a first ending bracket labeled '1.' and a second ending bracket labeled '2.'. The first ending leads back to the beginning of the third staff, and the second ending leads to the final measure of the piece.

Ice Cave Road

John Goodin

1.

♩=120



2.

♩=130





3.



Lower Palisades

1.

John Goodin

♩=100



2.

♩=100



3.

♩=92



The Mighty Oak

John Goodin

1.

♩=110



2.

♩=115



3.



Dunning's Spring Falls

John Goodin

1.

♩=96

This section consists of five staves of music in 4/4 time, marked with a tempo of 96 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The first staff contains four measures of eighth-note patterns. The second staff contains four measures, with a first ending bracket over the last two measures. The third staff contains four measures, with a second ending bracket over the last two measures. The fourth staff contains four measures of eighth-note patterns. The fifth staff contains four measures, with first and second ending brackets over the last two measures each.

2.

♩=116

This section consists of three staves of music in 6/8 time, marked with a tempo of 116 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The first staff contains eight measures of eighth-note patterns. The second staff contains eight measures, with first and second ending brackets over the last two measures each. The third staff contains eight measures, with first and second ending brackets over the last two measures each.

3.

♩=160

The musical score consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as ♩=160. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff begins with a repeat sign. The fourth staff includes first and second endings, marked with '1.' and '2.' above the staff.

Dug Road

1.

John Goodin

$\text{♩} = 140$

7

13

19

This system contains the first 19 measures of the piece. It is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 140 beats per minute. The melody is composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing beamed sixteenth notes. The first measure starts on a whole note, followed by eighth notes, and then a series of sixteenth notes. The system ends with a double bar line.

2.

25 $\text{♩} = 150$

30

35

This system contains measures 25 through 35. It is written in 3/4 time with a tempo of 150 beats per minute. The melody is composed of quarter and eighth notes. The first measure starts on a whole note, followed by quarter notes, and then eighth notes. The system ends with a double bar line.



3.

