

# Imitation of the Banjo

by W. K. Batchelder (1854)

Tab by David King

## BANJO SOLO

8va

P Staccato

D 1 1 0 0 1 2 2 3 3 2 2 0 0 1 2 2 1 0 0 0 0 0

B 0

G 0

C 0

9 0

8va

Legerement

T 1 2 3 3 2 2 0 0 1 2 2 1 1 2 2 0 0 1 2 2 3 0 0

A 0

B 0

8va

mP

T 1 2 3 3 3 0 0 0 1 1 2 0 1 0 1 2 3 0 3 1 2 0 0 0

A 0

B 0

8va

P

T 2 0 2 0 2 2 2 0 0 2 0 2 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

A 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

B 0



8va

pp Cres . . . cen . . . . . do. f Dolce

41

T 3 2 0 2 3 2 0 2 3 2 0 2 3 2 0. 2 303

A 3 1 0 1 3 1 0 1 3 1 0 1 3 1 0. 1. 2 303

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3

3

8va

46

T 1. 2 0 0 0 1. 2 303 0 0 2-2 0 0 0 2

A 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

3 33 3 33 3 33

8va

51

T 3 3 0 0 1. 2 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 2 3 3 0 0

A 3 3 0 0 1. 2 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 3 3 0 0

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

8va

56

T 1 2 2 1 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 0

A 1 2 2 1 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 0

B 0

3

8va

61

T  
A  
B

Crescendo f Legerement

Detailed description: This system contains measures 61 through 65. The top staff is a treble clef with a *8va* marking. It features a melodic line with accents (*v*) and triplets (*3*). The bottom staff is a six-string guitar tablature with fret numbers (0, 1, 2, 3) and includes triplets (*3*) and a *30* triplet. Performance directions include *Crescendo*, *f* (forte), and *Legerement* (lightly).

8va

66

T  
A  
B

Detailed description: This system contains measures 66 through 70. The top staff continues the melodic line with triplets (*3*). The bottom staff continues the guitar tablature with fret numbers and triplets (*3*).

8va

71

T  
A  
B

*sfz*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 71 through 75. The top staff includes a *sfz* (sforzando) marking. The bottom staff continues the guitar tablature with fret numbers and triplets (*3*).

8va

76

T  
A  
B

Detailed description: This system contains measures 76 through 80. The top staff includes a *sfz* marking. The bottom staff continues the guitar tablature with fret numbers and triplets (*3*).

BRIGGS' FAVORITE JIG

8<sup>va</sup> Allegretto, Marcato

81

T  
A  
B

8<sup>va</sup> P

86

T  
A  
B

8<sup>va</sup>

91

T  
A  
B

CODA

8<sup>va</sup> P Scherzandi

96

T  
A  
B

Imitation of the Banjo, for the Piano. Published in 1854. "Respectfully dedicated to T. F. Briggs (the world renowned banjoist) of Christy's Minstrels, N.Y. Introducing the favorite banjo melody as played in the scene illustrating the power of music as represented by Briggs and Horn, composed and arranged by W.K. Batchelder."

Batchelder's score implies a banjo tuned f-Bb-F-A-C. I have transposed it to standard C tuning (gCGBD). I omitted the introduction. The original score ends with a triad (ACA) that is a challenge to play on the banjo. I substituted a single C note (measure 104). Otherwise, this is a note-for-note transposition of Batchelder's score.

I included all the notation for piano dynamics, though these do not all translate well to the banjo. They may offer some guidance for interpretation. Some of the notation used:

- p = soft
- mp = softer
- pp = very loud
- f = loud
- mf = louder
- ff = very loud
- sfz = fierce accent
- staccato = short distinct notes (i.e. like a banjo)
- legerement = lightly, delicately, maybe slight decrease in tempo
- scherzando = playfully
- dolce = sweetly
- allegretto = a little lively, moderately fast
- marcato = accentuate each note

- [long wedges over several notes] = rising and falling volume
- [sideways carrot] = accent
- [stroke above note] = very short notes