

LOUISVILLE ORCHESTRA PRESENTS:  
**DON QUIXOTE**  
+ OTHER JOURNEYS



**22 NOVEMBER 2019**

VINAY PARAMESWARAN, GUEST CONDUCTOR

NICHOLAS FINCH, CELLO

ANNE CLYNE: NIGHT FERRY

RICHARD STRAUSS: DON QUIXOTE

# The Story of Don Quixote

in variations composed by Richard Strauss



## Variation I

Don Quixote & Sancho Panza start their journeys. Don Quixote sees a windmill and mistakes it for an evil giant and attacks it.



## Variation V

Don Quixote in his rest, dreams of brave conquests to win the love of a maiden



## Variation II

Don Quixote confronts the crying sheep, which appears to be a vast army.



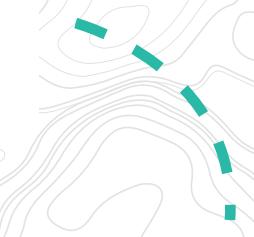
## Variation VI

Don Quixote and Sancho Panza begin their quest for the lady Dulcinea. Sancho in his fatigue of searching for the maiden, attempts and fails to trick Don Quixote into loving another.



## Variation VII

The two adventurers each ride a toy horse blindfolded, which have them believe they're on an incredible journey of flight.



## Variation X

In a bid to bring Don Quixote home, his neighbor impersonates the Knight of the White Moon to end his journey of false visions. In a duel he wins and demands Don Quixote return home.

## Variation IX

Still hallucinating, Don Quixote mistakes two friars for evil spirits and frightens them away before they can convince him otherwise.



## Variation VIII

The two journeymen embark on voyage onboard a magical vessel that sails in the open sea without incident until it suddenly capsizes.

## Finale

Don Quixote, exhausted from his return journey and wounds from his recent defeat, descends into another slumber. Reflecting on his journey in his last conscious moments, he falls into a eternal sleep, never to wake again.

# The protagonist of the story...

## Do you know Don Quixote?

A fictional character set in the 17th century time period; Don Quixote is a middle-aged Spaniard from the country's central region La Mancha. After reading and fantasizing about heroic adventures, Don Quixote sets off on a series of adventures. With an old used suit of armour, a makeshift knight helmet, and an old senior horse, Don Quixote declares himself a knight-errant. Completely lost in his illusions and hallucinations caused by his obsession of knighthood, Don Quixote sets off on a quest of heroism. Written by Richard Strauss, Don Quixote's adventures are the source material in the tone poem of identical title.

## The Writer

The story of Don Quixote was written by Miguel de Cervantes. He is considered the most famous writer in the history of Spanish literature. Coincidentally, Cervantes was born 17 years before his English counterpart William Shakespeare. William Shakespeare of England and Miguel de Cervantes of Spain lived during the same period, and died the same calendar year of 1616. The pair who never met, are responsible for the most widely known contributions to Western literature.



Spain



Region of La Mancha

## Key Terms

**Protagonist:** the leading character in a story, novel, or other fictional text

**Tone Poem:** a piece of music for instruments that represents a particular story, image, or mood

**Knight-errant:** a knight traveling in search of adventures in which to exhibit chivalry, skill, heroisms, and generosity.

## Fun Fact

Hidalgo Don Quixote's real name:  
**Alonso Quijano**

Though the main character of El Ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quijote de la Mancha (the Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote or La Mancha) is called Don Quixote, the famous name is only adopted by the main character after he falls mad with heroic illusions.

## Words from the composer

# ANNE CLYNE: *NIGHT FERRY*

*"Night Ferry* is music of voyages, from stormy darkness to enchanted worlds. It is music of the conjurer and setter of tides, the guide through the 'ungovernable and dangerous'. Exploring a winding path between explosive turbulent chaoticism and chamber lyricism, this piece weaves many threads of ideas and imagery. These stem from Riccardo Muti's suggestion that I look to composer Franz Schubert for inspiration as *Night Ferry* will be premiered with Entr'acte No. 3 from *Rosamunde* and his Symphony No. 9 (Great)."

"The title, *Night Ferry*, came from a passage in Seamus Heaney's *Elegy for Robert Lowell*, an American poet who, like Schubert, suffered from manic depression:

"You were our Night Ferry

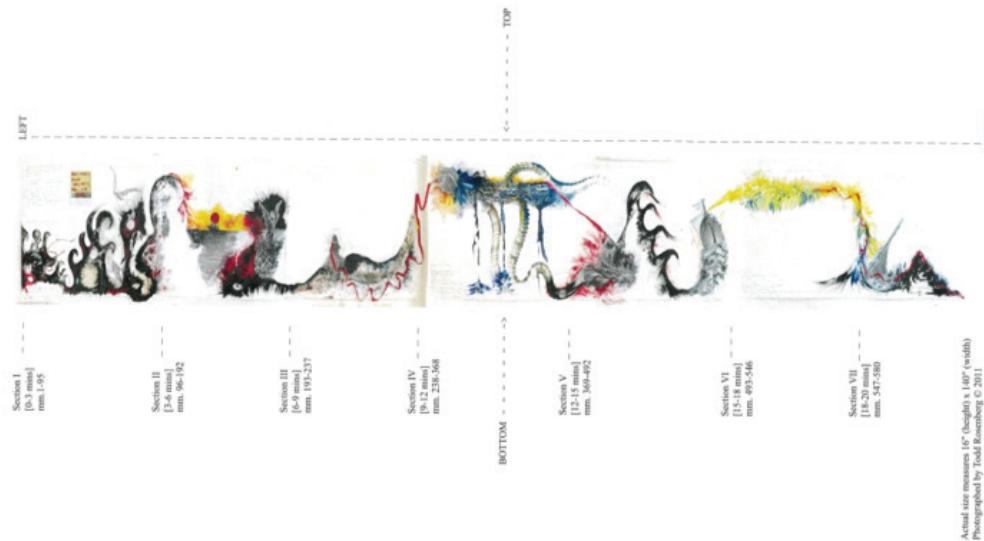
thudding in a big sea,

the whole craft ringing

## with an armourer's music

the course set wilfully across

the ungovernable and dangerous"



Actual size measures 16" (height) x 140" (width)

"More specifically, Schubert suffered from cyclothymia, a form of manic depression that is characterized by severe mood swings, ranging from agonizing depression to hypomania, a mild form of mania characterized by an elevated mood and often associated with lucid thoughts and heightened creativity. This illness sometimes manifests in rapid shifts between the two states and also in periods of mixed states whereby symptoms of both extremes are present. This illness shadowed Schubert throughout his adulthood, and it impacted and inspired his art dramatically. His friends report that in its most troublesome form, he suffered periods of "dark despair and violent anger." Schubert asserted that whenever he wrote songs of love, he wrote songs of pain, and whenever he wrote songs of pain, he wrote songs of love. Extremes were an organic part of his make-up." Anne Clyne