

# Solo Guitar Piece #1 / 15.9.2023

## CHORAL FOR A GROWING FLOWER

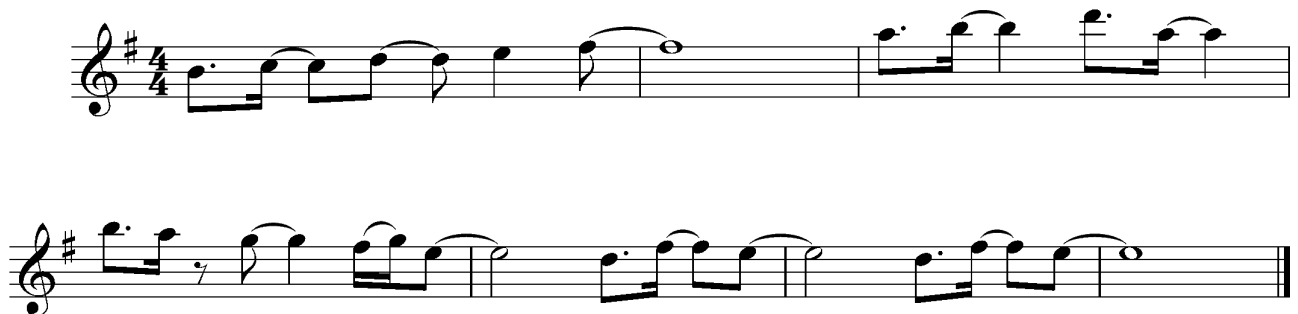
Choral For A Growing Flower is an intimate solo guitar piece. I always was fascinated from the fact that a simple melody, a little theme or musical idea, is able to develop in the most adventurous ways.

On the one hand some simple or more complex knowledge of theory is needed, or let's say „helps“ to transform things, on the other hand the only limit is the imagination how far things can go. I can take a simple melody, transpose it, make a little counterpoint to it, play it backwards, harmonize it, change rhythm etc.

With this in mind my Choral developed. I always imagine things and titles AFTER the composing process. The sound inspires me and creates pictures and scenes in my head. I always search for titles afterwards. I would be a lousy film composer... like Arnold Schönberg once said to a famous Hollywood producer: „I write 50 minutes of music for you and you can shoot a movie around it.“

So after listening while I'm playing, a growing flower comes to my mind. Like in a TV documentary about nature, when they film plants in a time lapse. You watch a flower grow for 40 seconds, in real time it takes weeks...

The theme just reminded me of growing:



Then I harmonized it. Simple, in G major... with two, three and four chord voicings. So I try to let it grow...

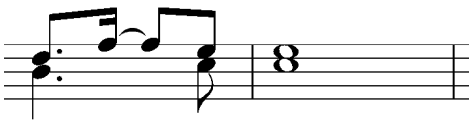
The image shows two staves of musical notation for the harmonized version of the melody. The first staff shows the melody from the previous image with chord voicings underneath. The second staff shows the melody with a more complex harmonic accompaniment, including a bass line and additional chords.

The little sixteenth notes with the half note afterwards „interrupt“ the theme to stop the motion sometimes and let the whole thing breathe.



Now here is the point where I try to develop the material, starting with very little changes, like mirroring phrases from the main theme:

main theme



mirror



Now development of phrases goes further. I tried to keep all the material in memory, but transform it. Here for example I did a short phrase to shift the regular rhythm two beats behind, then afterwards with a new phrase try to bring it back. There is also some melody now in the middle voices, but also the attempt to keep the rhythmic and melodic elements of the opening theme going.

A complex musical score in 4/4 time, key of D major, showing the development of the theme. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a 'little phrase' (quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5), 'rhythm on beat 3' (a dotted quarter note G4 on the third beat), and 'melody in middle voice' (a dotted quarter note G4 in the middle voice). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp, featuring 'little phrase 2' (quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5) and 'back on beat 1' (a dotted quarter note G4 on the first beat). The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp, featuring a long melodic line with a fermata over the final half note G4.

Some modulations and little key changes come their way. Not in an extreme way of course, just creating some textures and tensions. I tried for example to introduce the c# and the g#. The f# becomes f to introduce A-minor after a G#dim chord...this creates a short journey to C-major, with F - Em7 - C9, then f# shows up again and the whole phrase comes to an end on a D major chord.

Musical score for a 4-measure phrase in G major. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, then descends to B4, A4, G4. The harmony includes chords C#m7(b5), G/B, G#o, Am, F, Em9, C9, Dmaj9, C/D, and D.

Now is the time for me to bring it to rest and let the flower grow to it's full beauty. The whole rhythmic and melodic idea of the main theme is brought in here again, always starting on beat 1. It starts on the parallel minor of G in Eminor and goes through some little harmonic change. The melodic material now does not ascend or descend a lot, I tried to leave it in a middle range.

Theme memory 1

Musical score for 'Theme memory 1' in G minor, 4/4 time. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, then descends to B4, A4, G4.

Theme memory 2

Musical score for 'Theme memory 2' in G minor, 4/4 time. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, then descends to B4, A4, G4. The score ends with 'etc.'

For resting forever I decided Flageolett and no more punctuated rhythms...

Musical score for 'Flageolett' in G major, 4/4 time. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, then descends to B4, A4, G4. The score ends with a fermata over the final G4 note.

