

*Sumervar* was written in 1988. The title is a short version of “orchestral variations on the medieval round *sumer is icumen in*.” The theme, heard in the piccolo, oboe and clarinet, is light-hearted and so too are the variations. There are several references to summer, including a little folk song that I learned as a young piano student. The piece ends with the theme played backwards in canon, accompanied by the strings, which should sound like a tape recording played backwards.