

"Variants" (winner in 1964 of the Brookline Library Music Association Composition competition) is based structurally on twelve-tone serial procedures, with rhythmic organization centering around a frequently modified triplet figure.

Perhaps the most immediately conceivable element is the kaleidoscopic color concept with a few splashes of notes tossed about from one instrument to another. Each of these minute units are presented in varying colors by means of pizzicati, harmonics, and other color achieving agents. Emphasis is also placed vertically and horizontally on extremely high and low pitch areas.

The color spectrum is expanded even further by means of prepared piano, which includes placing magazines, chalk and welding rods over the strings. Amplification of the piano's percussive quality is achieved by plucking the piano strings, striking strings with a clothespin, using an oscillating motion on strings with a water glass, and striking parts of the piano with the fist.

One strikingly subtle effect is accomplished by means of sympathetic vibrations - silently pressing down selected keys and striking certain keys below, thus activating the silently pressed strings above.