SUITE LOUISIANE

II. Michieu Banjo

This traditional Afro-Creole folk song is included in Camille Nickerson's 1932 collection "Five Creole Songs". Michieu Banjo (Mister Banjo) draws from African, Spanish, and French musical elements. The dotted eighth-sixteenth followed by two eighths rhythm in this music has its roots in the African habanera rhythm. Over time, this syncopation would come to influence all of American vernacular music. The text portrays a well dressed mulatto man who walks about town only to be scorned for putting on airs. This setting accentuates the original music's diversity of elements.

59 Andante $ d = 92 $

III. Aux Natchitoches

Located in the heart of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Natchitoches (est.1714) is the oldest town in Louisiana. Aux Natchitoches (In Natchitoches) is a traditional Louisiana French ballad and is still performed today. It is believed to have 18th century French roots and like many folk songs, can be heard in different renditions. Today you can hear it in minor and major key versions. This setting brings both versions into one.

95 Adagio $ d = 60 $

106 $ p \text{ legato espressivo} $