

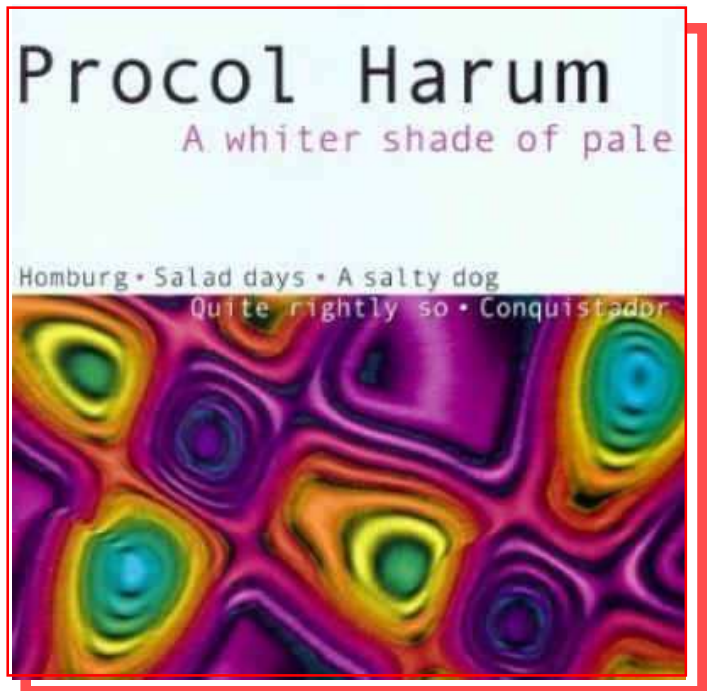
097. A Whiter Shade Of Pale

Backgrounds of S. Radic

In 1967 many great bands were founded, Procol Harum were certainly one of the best. A very concise style consisting of psychedelic rock, blues and organs as well as Gary Brooker's great voice were the trademarks of Procol Harum.

It is repeatedly claimed that "A whiter shade of pale" is a cover version of Johann Sebastian Bach's "Air" from Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D major, BWV 1068. Is this claim correct or not?

It's not right, and you have to differentiate. The whole song "A whiter shade of pale" is definitely inspired by Bach's music and uses a harmonic and melodic twist, which is up to a certain point identical to Bach's "Air". From a purely musical historical point of view, "A whiter shade of pale" was something of a trendsetter in the combination of classical music and rock music. The Beatles had already made timid attempts and used a classical string quartet ("Yesterday", "Eleanor Rigby"), and classical trumpet solos ("Penny Lane", "For no one") as well as entire symphony orchestras ("A day in the life"). But for the Beatles these were only splashes of colour; nice goodies that underlined their joy of experimentation and gave the songs an interesting touch. They did not elevate the classical elements to a principle, but were nevertheless a pioneer and showed what was to come: the Classic Rock. Procol Harum and the groundbreaking "A whiter shade of pale" were very quickly followed by other groups like Deep Purple, The Moody Blues or The Nice, which were all successful with their



fusion of classical and rock. The highlight of Classic Rock in the early 70s was recordings such as "Beethoven's Fifth" by the group Ekseption, or "Pictures at an exhibition" by Emerson, Lake & Palmer.

A Whiter Shade of Pale (Brooker / Reid)

*We skipped the light fandango
turned cartwheels 'cross the floor
I was feeling kinda seasick
but the crowd called out for more
The room was humming harder
as the ceiling flew away
When we called out for another drink
the waiter brought a tray*

*And so it was that later
as the miller told his tale
that her face, at first just ghostly,
turned a whiter shade of pale*

*If music be the food of love
then laughter is its queen
and likewise if behind is in front
then dirt in truth is clean
My mouth by then like cardboard
seemed to slip straight through my head
So we crash-dived straightway quickly
and attacked the ocean bed*

8-Beat, (T=85)

The musical score is presented in a four-staff format, all in 4/4 time. The top staff, labeled 'Strings', uses a treble clef and shows a single chord of G4, B4, and D5. The second staff, labeled 'Guitar', uses a bass clef and features a sequence of notes: G2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), D3 (quarter), G2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), D3 (quarter), G2 (quarter), and B2 (quarter). The third staff, labeled 'Bass', uses a bass clef and shows a sequence of notes: G2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), D3 (quarter), G2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), D3 (quarter), G2 (quarter), and B2 (quarter). The bottom staff, labeled 'Drums', uses a drum clef and shows a sequence of notes: G2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), D3 (quarter), G2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), D3 (quarter), G2 (quarter), and B2 (quarter).

Programming instruction

WERSI-PEGASUS. The "R-MID" file is the GM version, which sounds good in any GM device (call GM Setup in the peg. before). Transfer process: The file is first loaded into the 16 track sequence. With the GM "R" file, the channels must be changed to the Pegasus style channels: ACC1=1, BASS=2, ACC2=3, ACC3=4, ACC4=5, ACC+=6, DRM+=7 and DRUM=8 Caution, the ascending tracks (1-8) must be kept and all GM Prog. change controls must be deleted. If an ACC channel is missing, it remains empty (can be supplemented by custom programming in the style editor). Then a corresponding main slot with identical clock numbers is initialized in the style editor. Now the complete MID style is buffered in the 16-track sequence via "Copy to buffer" and then automatically transferred to the style editor channels in the style editor via "Ins.All". Now you only have to enter the Pegasus banks with the corresponding instruments according to the list and adjust the volume if necessary (volume recommendation: DRUM/BASS=110, GIT.=60). If you have any problems, try the BRIEFDIALOG in subscription distance learning.