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3.12.97

Dear Eva, As Christine has your address (as a member of the Chamber Music Society), I have decided to send you an annotation for my Fantasia on Waltzing Matilda; it might be easier than dictating it by phone; — (By the way, I sent Solomon an annotation for the Lyric some time ago, and I presume he would still have it).

In 1936, after studies in London, Miriam Hyde returned to her home town, Adelaide, in the year of South Australia's centenary. She was commissioned to write most of the incidental music for the pageant "Heritage", produced with a small orchestra in the Tivoli Theatre. This brief Fantasia on Waltzing Matilda served as an overture to a scene which displayed a "jolly swagman camped by a billabong". Miriam later re-scored this for full orchestra, the version that you will hear tonight.

M. H.