

Vexation

1893

Erik Satie

NOTE DE L'AUTEUR:

Pour se jouer 840 fois de suite ce motif, il sera bon de se préparer au préalable, et dans le plus grand silence, par des immobilités sérieuses.

NOTA DELL'AUTORE:

Per suonare questo motivo 840 volte di seguito, sarà bene prepararsi in anticipo e nel massimo silenzio, con seria compostezza.

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

In order to play this motif 840 times in succession, one should prepare oneself in advance by maintaining complete silence and keeping absolutely still.

Très lent * (♩ = 42)

Thème

The musical score for Vexation is presented in three systems. The first system shows the main theme in G major, 3/4 time, with a tempo marking of 'Très lent * (♩ = 42)'. The second system shows the first repetition of the theme, including fingering numbers (0-4) and hand change instructions (I and II). The third system shows the second repetition, also with fingering and hand change instructions. The score is written in treble clef and includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

* Per la continuità del discorso musicale è importante che tutti i musicisti studino ed eseguano il pezzo al metronomo indicato, che sarà comunque suggerito in fase di esecuzione da una luce intermittente che scandirà il tempo esatto.

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Très lent
Thème

The musical score consists of four staves. The first staff is a single melodic line in treble clef, starting with a C4 quarter note, followed by an eighth-note triplet (C4, D4, E4), then a quarter note (F4), an eighth-note triplet (G4, A4, B4), and a quarter note (C5). This is followed by a descending eighth-note triplet (B4, A4, G4), a quarter note (F4), an eighth-note triplet (E4, D4, C4), and a quarter note (B3). The piece ends with a quarter note (A3) and a fermata. The second staff is an accompaniment consisting of two voices: a treble voice with chords and a bass voice with single notes. The third staff is a single melodic line identical to the first. The fourth staff is an accompaniment identical to the second.