

CELLOS

Trois Mélodies

for

Mezzo-soprano

and chamber orchestra

by

Erik Satie

1916

orchestrated by

Thomas DeLio

2020

Instrumentation

Flute

Oboe

Bb Clarinet

Also Saxophone

Bassoon

Harp

3 Violins

3 Violas

3 Cellos

Duration – ca. 4'

Texts

No. 1 La statue de Bronze, Léon-Paul Fargue

La statue de bronze
La grenouille
Du jeu de tonneau
S'ennuie, le soir, sous la tonnelle...
Elle en a assez!
D'être la statue
Qui [hurle en silence]¹ un grand mot: Le Mot!

Elle aimerait mieux être avec les autres
Qui font des bulles de musique
Avec le savon de la lune
Au bord du lavoir mordoré
Qu'on voit, là-bas, luire entre les branches...

On lui lance à coeur de journée
Une pâture de pistoles
Qui la traversent sans lui profiter

Et s'en vont sonner
Dans les cabinets
De son piédestal numéroté!

Et le soir, les insectes couchent
Dans sa bouche...

The frog
Of the barrel game
Grows bored in the evening under the arbor...
She's had enough!
Of being the statue
Who screams in silence one big word: The Word!

She would like to be with the others
Who make bubbles of music
With the soap of the moon
At the edge of the golden tub
That we see, over there, glistening between the branches...

At midday we throw him
An abundance of gold coins
That cross without profit

And ring out
In the chambers
Of his numbered pedestal!

And in the evening, the insects go to sleep
In his mouth...

No. 2 Daphénéo, Mimi Godebska

Dis-moi, Daphénéo, quel est donc cet arbre
Dont les fruits sont des oiseaux qui pleurent?

Cet arbre, Chrysaline, est un oisetier.

Ah! Je croyais que les noisetiers
Donnaient des noisettes, Daphénéo.

Oui, Chrysaline, les noisetiers donnent des noisettes,
Mais les oisetiers donnent des oiseaux qui pleurent.

Ah!...

Tell me, Daphénéo, what is that tree
The fruits of which are weeping birds?

That tree, Chrysaline, is a bird-tree.

Ah! I thought that hazelnut-trees
Produce hazelnuts, Daphénéo.

Yes, Chrysaline, hazelnut-trees give hazelnuts,
But bird-trees give weeping birds.

Ah!...

No. 3 Le Chapelier, René Chalupt

Le chapelier s'étonne de constater
Que sa montre retarde de trois jours,
Bien qu'il ait eu soin de la graisser
Toujours avec du beurre de première qualité.
Mais il a laissé tomber des miettes
De pain dans les rouages,
Et il a beau plonger sa montre dans le thé,
Ça ne le fera pas avancer davantage.

The hatmaker is surprised to note
That his watch was slow for three days ,
Although he took care to grease it,
Always with premium quality butter.
But he dropped crumbs
Of bread into the gears,
And no matter how often he dips his watch into tea,
It will not advance any further.

Violoncello

No. 1 La statue de Bronze

$\text{♩} = 84$
pizzicato

f

7

p *mf* *p* *mf* *pp*

arco

12

p *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *f*

17

rit. . . . $\text{♩} = 68$ $\text{♩} = 84$
pizzicato

f *p*

23

3 arco

p *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

31 **rit.** $\text{♩}=72$ $\text{♩}=84$ **4** pizz. **2**

f *mf*

41 arco

ppp

49

57 **rit.** $\text{♩}=68$ **2**

ppp

1'33.7"

Violoncello

No. 2

Daphénéo

$\text{♩} = 60$

5

normale

p — *ppp* — *mf* *mp* — *ppp*

11

4

pizz.

mp — *p* *mp* — *p* *mp* — *p* *mp* — *p* *mp* — *p*

20

9

solo

mf *pp* *pp*

34

rit.

tutti
divisi
arco

$\text{♩} = 30$

ppp — niente 1'20.5"

No. 3

La Chapelier

$\text{♩} = 72$ spiccato

ppp

This block contains the first three measures of the piece. The music is written in bass clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 12/8 time signature. It consists of a continuous eighth-note pattern. The first measure has a 'ppp' (pianississimo) dynamic marking.

4

This block contains measure 4, which continues the eighth-note pattern from the previous measures.

7

pizz. arco spiccato

mf p ppp mf

This block contains measures 5, 6, and 7. Measure 5 starts with a rest, followed by a pizzicato (pizz.) eighth-note pattern with a mf dynamic. Measure 6 continues the pattern with a p dynamic. Measure 7 switches to arco spiccato with a ppp dynamic, which then crescendos to mf by the end of the measure.

10

rit. $\text{♩} = 48$ $\text{♩} = 72$

pizz. arco sul pont. spiccato

f f p ppp f

This block contains measures 8, 9, and 10. Measure 8 begins with a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking and a tempo change to $\text{♩} = 48$. It features a pizzicato (pizz.) eighth-note pattern with a f dynamic. Measure 9 continues with an arco sul ponticello (sul pont.) eighth-note pattern, also with a f dynamic, which then decrescendos to p . Measure 10 returns to a spiccato eighth-note pattern with a ppp dynamic, which then crescendos to f .

13

rit. $\text{♩} = 52$

ppp

54.0"

This block contains measures 11, 12, and 13. Measure 11 has a rest. Measure 12 has a rest followed by a treble clef. Measure 13 features a half note with a fermata, marked ppp . The piece ends with a double bar line. A performance time of 54.0" is indicated at the bottom right.