

# Percussion 6

*et absence -*

for violin and percussion ensemble

Thomas DeLio  
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## Instrumentation

Violin

Percussion ensemble (six players)

percussion 1: cymbal (medium), triangle (high, thin beater),  
snare drum (very high, piccolo), guiro, four  
tom-toms (high, medium, low, very low), bass  
drum (medium)

percussion 2: maracas (very high), cymbal (low), cabasa,  
tom-toms (high, medium, low, very low)

percussion 3: maracas (very high), cymbal (very low), bongos  
(high, low)

percussion 4: maracas (very high), chimes

percussion 5: maracas (very high), vibraphone

percussion 6: maracas (very high), glockenspiel (sounding two  
higher than written)

**Duration = ca. 7 minutes**

## Spatial Positioning of Players

Percussion 1, 2 and violin may be onstatge (percussion 1 left-rear of stage, percussion 2 center-right front); percussion 3, 4, 5, and 6 are all offstage, as close as possible to the positions indicated in the diagram below.

percussion 1

percussion 2

violin

percussion 3

percussion 4

percussion 5

percussion 6

# Text

The 90th fragment from the North Point Press edition of *A Tomb for Anatole*  
by Stéphane Mallarmé as translated by Paul Auster

pureté

purity

double

double

--- identité

--- identity

---

---

les yeux

the eyes

les deux points de

the two points of

vue égaux

equal sight

## Notes

Violinist must occasionally speak and play.

x = speak unvoiced

♩ = speak voiced

*et absence -*

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**A**

Violin       $\text{♩} = 60$

**B**

Violin      sul tasto

Wherever harmonics are indicated use natural harmonics whenever possible, sounding where written.

Violin      normale       $\text{♩} = 60$

**C**

Voice      19       $\text{sfz/p} \longrightarrow \text{fff}$

Violin      les      yeux      normale

Percussion 6       $\text{mf} \quad \text{f} \quad \text{fff}$

Violin       $\text{sul pont.} \quad \text{ppp}$

Maracas (vh)       $\text{mf} \quad \text{f} \quad \text{fff}$

Glockenspiel       $\text{sul pont.} \quad \text{ppp} \ll \text{f} \gg \text{p}$

normale       $\text{sul ponticello}$   
entirely on bridge fundamental should disappear      normale

Musical score for three parts: Voice, Violin, and Percussion 6. The score consists of three staves. The Voice staff (top) has lyrics "les yeux" with dynamic markings *sfp* and *fff*. The Violin staff (middle) includes dynamics *normale*, *5*, *ppp*, *mp*, *mp*, *ppp*, *fff*, *ppp*, *f*, *ppp*, *fff*, *ppp*, and *p*. The Percussion 6 staff (bottom) is mostly blank with a few short notes.

34

**Voice**

les yeux

**Violin**

sul pont.      normale      ffff > ppp      ppp > f > ppp      ffff > subito ppp      p > mf subito ffff

**Percussion 6**

Maracas (vh)

ffff > ffff      ppp > ffff      ffff



**E**

**Violin**

normale 5 ffff      subito ppp > f ffff      pizz      arco pizz      arco normate      sul pont.      normale pizz      arco sul pont.      pizz

**Percussion 6**

ffff

Glock.

p

Violin

47

**F**

arco

9

*fff* *p* < *fff* *p* *p* *fff*

Percussion 6

*fff* *fff* *fff* *fff*

=

Violin

53

*ppp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Percussion 6

Maracas (vh)

*ppp*

Musical score for Violin and Percussion 6, measures 65-75.

**Violin:**

- Measure 65: Rests. Dynamics:  $ppp$ ,  $p$ ,  $ppp$ ,  $mp$ ,  $mp$ ,  $ppp$ .
- Measure 75: Rests. Dynamics:  $f > ppp$ ,  $mf$ ,  $ppp$ ,  $mp$ ,  $ppp$ .

**Percussion 6:**

- Measure 65: Rests. Dynamics:  $fff$ ,  $ppp$ .
- Measure 75: Rests.

Measure numbers 65 and 75 are indicated above the staves. Measure 65 starts with a dynamic of  $fff$ . Measure 75 starts with a dynamic of  $f > ppp$ .

**G**

Violin

Percussion 6

86      sul tasto      gradual change to sul pont.

sul ponticello  
entirely on bridge,  
fundamental should  
disappear, some overtones  
will emerge randomly

normale

sul tasto

sul ponticello

normale

Violin

Percussion 6

95      sul tasto → normale

sul ponticello  
entirely on bridge,  
fundamental should  
disappear, some overtones  
will emerge randomly

H

col legno  
battuto

normale

sul tasto

col legno  
battuto

normale

6'56"