

# Percussion 3

*et absence -*

for violin and percussion ensemble

Thomas DeLio

2016

## 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  
octaves higher than written)

**Duration = ca. 7 minutes**

## Spatial Positioning of Players

Percussion 1, 2 and violin may be onstage (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 -

Thomas DeLio

**A** **B**

Violin  $\text{♩} = 60$

*pp* *ppp* *f* *f* *ppp* *ff* *ppp*

sul tasto

Violin

normale

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

*mf* *p* *mp* *ppp* *ff* *p* *mp* *subito ppp* *mf* *f* *ppp* *ppp* *fff*

sul pont.

normale

Violin

normale

sul ponticello entirely on bridge fundamental should disappear

*mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *ppp* *mp* *ppp* *p* *fff* *ppp* *fff* *ppp*

normale

**C**

Voice

les yeux pu - re - té

*sfz/p* *fff* *mf* *f* *fff*

Violin

*mp* *f* *ppp* *mp* *ppp* *fff* *fff* *subito ppp* *ppp* *f* *p*

sul pont.

normale

sul pont.

normale

sul pont.

normale

sul pont.

Percussion 3

Maracas (vh)

Cymbal (vl)

Bongos (h)

(l)

**D**

23

Voice: les deux points de vue é - - gaux i - den - ti - té

Violin: normale, sul pont., normale, normale, cut off violin with text, normale, sul pont. molto

Percussion 3: Maracas (vh), Cymbal (vl) soft yarn mallets, bow, edge

Dynamic markings: *p*, *mf*, *mp*, *ppp*, *fff*, *f*



28

Voice: les yeux

Violin: normale, normale, normale, normale, normale, normale

Percussion 3: (Empty)

Dynamic markings: *sfz/p*, *fff*, *mp*, *ppp*, *fff*, *ppp*, *f*, *ppp*, *fff*, *ppp*, *p*

34

Voice

les yeux

Violin

normale sul pont.

*sfz/p* *fff*

*f* *fff* *fff* *ppp* *f* *ppp* *f* *fff* *subito ppp* *p* *mf* *subito p* *fff*

Cymbal (vl)

soft yarn mallets bow

edge

Maracas (vh)

*ppp* *p* *ppp* *fff*



40

Violin

normale pizz arco pizz arco sul pont. normale pizz arco sul pont. pizz

*fff* *subito ppp* *f* *fff* *fff* *subito ppp* *fff* *fff* *subito ppp* *fff* *arco normale* *subito ppp* *fff* *p* *fff* *normal* *pizz* *fff* *subito ppp* *fff* *subito ppp* *fff* *fff* *ppp* *fff*

Maracas (vh)

Bongos (h,l)

light sticks

*ppp* *fff* *ppp* *ppp* *fff* *mf*

**Violin**

47

arco **F**

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

**Percussion 3**

Bongos (h,l)

sticks 7 9 9

*ppp* *fff* *p < f* *subito ppp*



**Violin**

53

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

violin: cut off with first attack of maracas

**Percussion 3**

Maracas (vh)

*fff* 3

**Violin**

**Percussion 3**

Maracas (vh)



**Violin**

**Percussion 3**

Maracas (vh)

Cymbal (vl)

soft yarn mallets  
bow → edge



**G**

Violin

86 *f* sul *tasto* *ppp* *fff* *ppp* *fff* *p* *mf* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

gradual change to sul pont.  
sul ponticello entirely on bridge, fundamental should disappear, some overtones will emerge randomly  
normale  
sul *tasto*  
sul ponticello  
normale

Percussion 3

**H**

Violin

95 *ppp* *f* *ppp* *fff* *ppp* *fff* *ppp* *p* *fff* *ppp* *fff* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

sul *tasto* → normale  
sul ponticello entirely on bridge, fundamental should disappear, some overtones will emerge randomly  
col legno battuto  
normale  
sul *tasto*  
col legno battuto  
normale

Percussion 3

*ppp* *fff* *ppp* *fff*