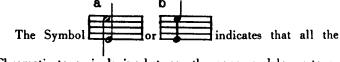
The Tides of Manaunaun

Henry Cowell

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS



Chromatic tones inclusive between the upper and lower tones given, are to be played simultaneously.

Whole and half notes are written open, as in symbol (a).

Notes of other time values are written closed, as in symbol (b).

A sharp or flat above or below such a symbol indicates that only the black keys between the outer limits are to be played, while a natural in the same position indicates that only the white keys are to be played.

This rule is to be followed irrespective of key signature, since the tones within a tone-cluster are not affected by the key.

Only the outer tones, the highest and lowest, must be in conformance with the key signature.

It is seen therefore that the symbol



The tone clusters indicated by these symbols are to be played either with the flat of the hand, or with the forearm or with the fist, according to the length of the cluster.

Care should be taken to play all the tones exactly together, and in legato passages, to press down the keys, rather than to strike them, thus obtaining a smoother tone quality, and a unified sound.

Care must be taken that the outer limits of the clusters are absolutely precise, as written, and that each tone as indicated between the outer limits is actually sounded.

The forearm should be held in a straight line along the keys, except in case the arm of the pianist is too long, in which case the arm must be partly dropped off the keys at an angle, to give the proper length.

If desired, melody tones may be brought out with the knuckle of the little finger, in the playing of clusters.

Tone clusters to be played in the manner indicated by the symbol (\$) will be written as:



An arrowhead is used in connection with arpeggiation marks to indicate whether the arpeggiation is to be from the lowest tone upwards, as is customary, () or from the highest tone downwards ().

R. F. Stands for right fist; L. F. for left fist.

R. A. Stands for right arm; L. A. for left arm.

The Tides of Manaunaun

No. 1 of Three Irish Legends (1912)

Story according to John Varian

Manaunaun was the god of motion, and long before the creation he sent forth tremendous tides, which swept to and fro through the universe, and rhythmically moved the particles and materials of which the gods were later to make the suns and the worlds.

Henry Cowell (1897–1965)







