



No. 7371

Maurice Ravel

Pavane pour une Infante défunte

for

Solo Piano

Urtext Edition

— by —

Roger Nichols

Pavane pour une Infante défunte

à Madame la Princesse E. de Polignac

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

♩ = 54-80

Assez doux, mais d'une sonorité large

The musical score is written for piano in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of four systems of staves. The first system (measures 1-3) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a *[sim.]* marking. The second system (measures 4-6) features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and a *Cédez* instruction. The third system (measures 7-9) includes a *[m.g.]* marking, a piano (*p*) dynamic, and an *En mesure* instruction. The fourth system (measures 10-12) contains a *Un peu retenu* instruction, a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic, a *En élargissant* instruction, a forte (*f*) dynamic, a triplet of eighth notes, and a *1er Mouvt* instruction. The score is characterized by its flowing, arpeggiated textures and delicate harmonic language.

très lointain

13

pp *m.g.* *m.g.* [*m.g.*]

Leg. *Leg.* *Leg.*

très soutenu

16

[*m.g.*] *mf*

Leg. *Leg.*

19

ppp [*m.g.*] [*m.g.*]

Leg.

22

[*m.g.*] *pp* [*m.g.*]

Un peu plus lent

25

mf *f*

Reprenez le mouvement

28

p [sim.] [sim.]

31

mf Cédez

34

rapide *p* En mesure

37

Un peu retenu *pp* *Large* *ff* 1er Mouvt subitement très doux et très lié [pp]

41

pp

44

Measures 44-46 of a piano piece. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 44 features a complex texture with triplets and slurs. Measure 45 continues with similar patterns. Measure 46 includes a triplet of eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *ff*. A *sed.* (sordina) instruction is present below the staff.

47

Très grave

Measures 47-49. Measure 47 starts with a dynamic of *sf*. Measure 48 has a dynamic of *p*. Measure 49 begins a new section marked "Très grave" with a dynamic of *pp*. The tempo changes to 2/4 time.

51

Measures 51-53. Measure 51 features a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 52 has a dynamic of *pp*. Measure 53 continues the texture with slurs and ties.

54

Measures 54-56. Measure 54 has a dynamic of *sf*. Measure 55 has a dynamic of *ff*. Measure 56 continues with complex textures and slurs.

57

Très grave

Measures 57-59. Measure 57 starts with a dynamic of *sf*. Measure 58 has a dynamic of *p*. Measure 59 begins a new section marked "Très grave" with a dynamic of *p*. The tempo changes to 2/4 time.

1^{er} Mouvt
marquez le chant

60

[pp] [sim.] [sim.]

2^{ed}

62

64

Cédez [7] [mp]

Reprenez le mouvement

66

pp [7]

2^{ed}

En élargissant beaucoup

[Un peu retenu]

69

m.g. [m.d.] m.g. ff

2^{ed} 2^{ed} 2^{ed}

CRITICAL COMMENTARY

Sources: Autograph untraceable

E – first edition by Demets, undated, but published in 1900 (E.623D)

ECR – corrected reprint of E published by Eschig, bearing printed autograph statement: "Seule édition française corrigée par l'auteur et conforme au manuscrit original Maurice Ravel". Date of these corrections unknown, but numerous errors and inconsistencies still remaining

CE, RO, RR – see 'Editorial Method and Sources', p. 3

Tempo indication – see Preface

Bars 1–6. E, CE: LH, tenuto markings and staccato dots only on first two quavers of bar 2 and three quavers of bar 3.

Extended editorially. ECR plainly inconsistent

Bar 6. E, CE, ECR: "Cédez" and *mf* on quaver 7. Repositioned editorially at quaver 6 by analogy with bar 33

Bar 10. E, CE, ECR: "Un peu retenu" begins on quaver 4. Repositioned editorially at quaver 5 by analogy with bar 37

Bar 15. CE: RH beats 2 and 3, tie inserted; missing in E, ECR

Bars 17, 24. CE, ECR: RH quaver 8, ♯ added to *c''*; missing in E

Bar 25. E, CE, ECR: *mf* on beat 2. Repositioned editorially at beat 1 by analogy with bar 18, and with RO in both bars

Bar 26. E, CE, ECR: *f* on beat 4. Repositioned editorially at beat 3 following RO

Bar 32. E, CE, ECR: RH quaver 3, rest below *f''*♯. Downward stem added to *f''*♯ and quaver rest deleted editorially by analogy with bar 31

E, CE, ECR: LH beats 2 and 4, arpeggiation removed editorially

Bar 33. E, CE: RH quaver 5, accented and with upward stem; accent and downward stem in ECR. In RO, clarinet 1 and violins 2 make clear that this chord is merely continuation of supporting harmony. Accent removed editorially and downward stem taken from ECR

Bars 34, 66. E, CE, ECR: LH beat 4, first grace-note a crotchet. Altered to quaver editorially

Bars 38, 70. E, CE, ECR: RH beat 3, *f''*♯ quaver, joined to quavers of beat 2. Altered to crotchet editorially following horn 1 in RO

Bar 39. RR: Ravel emphasises suddenness of transition here and at bar 49. E, CE, ECR: "*subitement très doux et très lié*" begins on beat 4. Repositioned at quaver 8 editorially

Bar 41. CE, ECR: RH quaver 2, ♭ added to *b''*; missing in E

Bars 41–42, 51–52. E, CE, ECR: LH ties to *g* missing

Bar 44. CE: RH quaver 2, ♭ added to *f''*; missing in E, ECR

Bar 45. CE: RH quaver 8, ♭ added to *b*; missing in E, ECR

Bar 46. E, CE, ECR: beat 2, *f*. Altered to *sf* editorially by analogy with bars 47, 56, 57

Bars 47, 57. RR: quaver 1, more than a suspicion of a spread to this slightly awkward chord, especially in 57

Bars 47–49, 57–59. E, CE, ECR: the descending pairs of notes are not uniformly marked. In RO, each quaver is accented and slurred on to the succeeding crotchet, with downbows in the strings reinforcing the diminuendo pattern for each phrase.

RO also marks an overall diminuendo from quaver 3 of bar 47 to the cadence in bar 49 (and similarly in bars 57–59); E, CE, ECR have overall diminuendo only in bars 47–48 and overall phrase mark only in bars 57–58; the latter is absent from RO

Bars 48–49. E, CE, ECR: "Très grave" begins on beat 3 of bar 48.

Repositioned editorially at beat 4 by analogy with bars 58–59

Bars 49–50. E, CE, ECR: RH, no crescendo over rising part of phrase. Added editorially by analogy with bars 39–40, 43–44

Bar 50. CE, ECR: LH, treble clef added before beat 3; missing in E. E, CE, ECR: *pp* on beat 1. Repositioned editorially at bar 49, quaver 4 by analogy with bar 43 and with RO

Bar 51. CE: RH quaver 2, ♭ added to *b''*; missing in E, ECR

Bars 51–52. See note to bars 41–42

Bars 51, 55. E, CE, ECR: RH beat 2, quaver rest above *f''*♯ and *b'* respectively. Repositioned at quaver 4 editorially

Bars 53–55. E, CE, ECR: no crescendo or diminuendo. Added editorially by analogy with bars 43–45

Bar 54. E, CE, ECR: *p* on quaver 1. Altered editorially to *pp* by analogy with bars 43, 50, and repositioned editorially at bar 53, quaver 8

E, CE, ECR: semiquaver beam on quintuplet. Demi-semiquaver beam added editorially

E, CE, ECR: LH quaver 8, quaver rest. Rest deleted editorially, and bracketed *g'* supplied (played by RH thumb) following line of clarinet 2 in RO

Bar 55. CE: RH quaver 2, *a'*♯ of E (ECR) deleted (to conform with bar 45)

E, CE, ECR: RH quaver 3, *g''* crotchet. Altered editorially to quaver, as in bar 51

CE: RH quaver 8, ♭ added to *b*; missing in E, ECR

Bar 57. See note to bar 47

E, CE: LH quaver 8, *f* crotchet. Altered to quaver, as in ECR

Bars 57, 58. E, CE: RH, quaver rests missing from 57 quaver 7 and 58 quaver 3; augmentation dots added to preceding crotchets in ECR. Rests added editorially by analogy with bars 47, 48

Bars 57–59. See note on bars 47–49

Bar 58. CE, ECR: LH quaver 1, ♭ added to *f*; missing in E

Bar 66. See note to bar 34

Bar 67. E, CE, ECR: LH quaver 8, discrepancy between this bar and bar 35. No editorial decision taken

Bar 70. E, CE, ECR: *f* is printed nearer to quaver 2 than to quaver 1. RO and RR clearly mark change of dynamics and texture from quaver 2

See note to bar 38

E, CE, ECR: beat 4, "*Ped.*" on the beat. Repositioned editorially under grace-notes

Bar 72. RR: Ravel plays final chord more quietly than preceding two. This is a compromise between E (CE, ECR) and RO, which places climax on quaver 3 of bar 70, followed by a diminuendo and a *perdendosi* on final string chord

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