

A Couple of Clowns

For piano



1. Clown
2. Intermedio
3. Buffoons #402

Duration 2' 54"

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A Couple of Clowns (2022)

This music was composed in part to expose the inner clown. Here, specifically, I try to find appropriate musical costumes that dress themselves up a la Schönberg. I have shamelessly attempted to appropriate elements of his music, such as a twelve-tone row, and direct quotes from his work into these movements. The overall effect seems to be that I have succeeded in making a clown of myself! I guess we always need to consider our goals when setting out to compose.

The cover art: (possibly titled): *Farceurs français et italiens*

This is a public domain image of a painting possibly attributed to Antonio Verrio (1636-1707).

1. Clown

1' 01"

Lento (♩ = 105)

The musical score is divided into four systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs).
System 1 (Piano): Treble clef starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Bass clef starts with a whole note G3, followed by a half note A3, and a quarter note B3. Dynamics: *mf*, *sfz*, *p*.
System 2 (Pno.): Treble clef has a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4), followed by a quarter note C5, and a quarter note B4. Bass clef has a quarter note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. Dynamics: *f*, *sfz*, *mf*, *subito p*.
System 3 (Pno.): Treble clef has a half note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a half note B4. Bass clef has a half note G3, followed by a half note A3, and a half note B3. Dynamics: *8ba*, *Led.*, ***, *Led.*.
System 4 (Pno.): Treble clef has a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Bass clef has a quarter note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. Dynamics: *f*, *pp*, *mf*, *p*, *f*, *pp*, *sfz*, *mp*.

Pno.

9

mf *mp* *p* *sf*

3+2+2

Pno.

11

p *mp*

3

Pno.

13

mf

Pno.

15

p

3

Pno.

16

mf

f

Pno.

18

ff

sub. p

f

8va

3

Pno.

20

sffz

2. Intermedio

4

30"

Andante ♩ = 82

misterioso

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The score is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). Measure 1: Treble clef has a quarter note G4, quarter rest, quarter note F4, quarter rest. Bass clef has a quarter note B3, quarter rest, quarter note A3, quarter rest. Dynamic: *mf*. Measure 2: Treble clef has a half note chord (G4, A4, B4). Bass clef has a whole rest. Dynamic: *p*. Measure 3: Treble clef has a quarter note G4, quarter rest, quarter note F4, quarter rest. Bass clef has a quarter note B3, quarter rest, quarter note A3, quarter rest. Dynamic: *f*. Measure 4: Treble clef has a half note chord (G4, A4, B4). Bass clef has a whole rest. Dynamic: *pp*. The time signature changes to 2/4 at the end of measure 4.

Musical notation for measures 5-7. The score is in 2/4 time. Measure 5: Treble clef has a quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Bass clef has a quarter note B3, quarter rest, quarter note A3, quarter rest. Dynamic: *pp*. Measure 6: Treble clef has a whole rest. Bass clef has a quarter note G4, quarter rest, quarter note F4, quarter rest. Dynamic: *fp*. Measure 7: Treble clef has a quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Bass clef has a quarter note B3, quarter rest, quarter note A3, quarter rest. Dynamic: *pp*. The time signature changes to 4/4 at the end of measure 7.

molto rall.

Musical notation for measures 8-11. The score is in 4/4 time. Measure 8: Treble clef has a quarter rest, quarter note G4, quarter rest, quarter note F4. Bass clef has a quarter note G4, quarter rest, quarter note F4, quarter rest. Dynamic: *fp*. Measure 9: Treble clef has a quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Bass clef has a quarter note G4, quarter rest, quarter note F4, quarter rest. Dynamic: *pp*. Measure 10: Treble clef has a half note chord (G4, A4, B4, C5). Bass clef has a half note chord (G4, A4, B4, C5). Measure 11: Treble clef has a half note chord (G4, A4, B4, C5). Bass clef has a half note chord (G4, A4, B4, C5). Dynamic: *ppp*. The time signature changes to 3/4 at the end of measure 11.

Pno.

16

Pno.

misterioso ppp

21

Pno.

mp *f*

$\text{♩} = 105$

24

Pno.

$\text{♩} = 105$

sub. p *mp* *mf* *mp*

27

31

Pno.

p *sfz* *p*

36

Pno.

sfz *f* *sfz* *sfz* *mf*

40

Pno.

f *ff* *diva*

44

Pno.

pp *sfz* *pp* *sfz* *sfz*

♩ = ♩ = 105)

48

Pno.

sffz *p* *sffz* *f* *ff* *p* *ff*

RH

LH

8ba

51

pp

15^{ma}

Pno.

Red.