

Prelude XXI in B flat major

<https://youtu.be/c-p7AdPyFZg>



A prelude with **three musical ideas** and a **poem**.

Inspired by **Paul Verlaine's** poem "*Donc, ce sera par un clair jour d'été*", the piece conjures images of **beauty** on a summer day, but also of **melancholy**.

The first section is an **improvisation**, introducing the warm key of B-flat major. The second Adagio could be a **choral** and is used to set the text to music. The third and longest section is a **fugato** based on **two subjects**, interspersed by further stanzas of the poem.

*P*relude 21

Summer

*A Song of Beauty
and Melancholy*



Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Wieland Handke

15 (of 24) *Preludes* and

15 (of 24) *Fugues*

Work in Progress

through all major and minor keys

Prelude XXI in B flat major

Wieland Handke, August-September 2026

Lyrics by Paul Verlaine, 1844-1896

Larghetto (♩ = 52)

The musical score is written for piano in B-flat major (two flats) and 6/8 time. The tempo is marked 'Larghetto' with a quarter note equal to 52 beats. The score consists of three systems of five measures each, with measure numbers 1, 5, and 10 indicated at the start of each system. The notation includes treble and bass staves with various musical symbols such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5. The score includes a variety of dynamic markings: *p*, *mf*, *f*, *mp*, *pp*, *ff*, and *p*. There are also articulation marks like accents and slurs. The bottom of each measure contains a sequence of symbols: a star, a red 'ed', and another star, repeated for each measure.

Measure 1: *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano).

Measure 5: *pp* (pianissimo), *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *ff* (fortissimo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte).

Measure 10: *ff* (fortissimo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano).

Adagio (♩ = 66)

15

Donc, ce se - ra par un clair jour d'é-té Le grand so-ileil,

f p mf mp p pp p ppp

Red. * Red. Red. Red. * Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. * Red. Red.

20

com - pli - ce de ma joi - e, Fe - ra, par-mi le sa-tin et la soi -

mp f p mf mp p mf

* Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

25

e, Plus belle en-co - re vo - tre chère beau - té;

mp f mp f p mf p mf p

* Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

30

Fugato

mf p mf p mf p mf p

Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

*meno mosso**a tempo*

71

pp *mf* *p* *mf* *f* *mf*

Et

*And. *And.*And. ** *And. *And.*And. ** *And. *And.*And. ** *And. *And.*And. **

75

quand le soir vien - dra, l'air se - ra doux Qui

p *mf* *ff* *mf* *f* *p* *f*

*And. ** *And. ** *And. ** *And. *And.*And.*And. ** *And. **

79

T1 se joue - ra, ca - res - sant, dans vos voi - les,

mp *f* *mp* *ff*

T2

*And. ** *And. ** *And. ** *And. ** *And. ** *And. **

83

Et les re - gards pai - si - bles des é - toi -

mf *ff* *mf* *f* *mf*

T2

*And. ** *And. ** *And. ** *And. **

poco rallentando

86

les Bien - veil - lam - ment souri-- ront

f mf ff p ff mf ff

T2

Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red.

90

Largo (♩ = 48)

aux é - poux.

mp f ppp p mp pp mp p mp

31 35

*Red. Red. Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red.

95

più mosso

p ppp mp mf

21

*Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red.

99

ff mf f mf ff mf f

21 45

*Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red.

103 *rallentando* *a tempo*

mp *pp* *p* *mp* *f*

**red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* * **red.* **red.*

107

mf *f* *mp* *pp* *f* *mf*

**red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.*

111 *ritenuto*

f *mf* *p*

**red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* **red.* *