

MAURICE  
**RAVEL**  
(1875 - 1937)

# **MIROIRS**

## **2. Oiseaux tristes**

*Orchestrated by Felix Gunther*  
*Edited by Joseph E. Maddy*

**PIANO CONDUCTOR**



# OISEAUX TRISTES

(SAD BIRDS)

In arranging an orchestral score of Ravel's famous "Oiseaux Tristes" (Sad Birds), one excessively difficult problem had to be solved. This composition is generally considered so typically a pianistic one that an orchestral score based entirely on the original piano version might seem almost an impossibility. Yet no one, on the other hand, would presume to make any radical changes in this marvelous piece of music. Realizing that the core of this difficulty consists in the 12/8 movement Ravel has employed in this composition, I have endeavored to find a solution which makes it really simple to play and yet does not alter a single note. The answer was found by using a 6/8 movement instead, which makes it possible for the composer's original rhythm to sound exactly the same. No part of the score is now technically difficult. When the members of the school orchestras grow used to the subtle harmonization, they will find that this arrangement is really easy to master.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the bars of the cadence between numbers 11 and 12, between the two signs  $\oplus - \ominus$ , may be omitted without trouble, if soloists of the necessary ability are not available. Because of the delicate construction of this composition the trombones were omitted from the score.

FELIX GUENTHER

## INSTRUMENTATION

### SMALL ORCHESTRA

PIANO-CONDUCTOR	1st FLUTE
1st VIOLIN (Principal)	1st B $\flat$ CLARINET
1st VIOLIN A	1st and 2nd B $\flat$ TRUMPETS
2nd VIOLIN	1st E $\flat$ ALTO SAXOPHONE
3rd VIOLIN	2nd E $\flat$ ALTO SAXOPHONE
VIOLA	3rd B $\flat$ TENOR SAXOPHONE
CELLO	BELLS, GONG, GLOCKENSPIEL
BASS	

### ADDITIONAL PARTS FOR FULL ORCHESTRA

1st & 2nd HORNS in F	2nd B $\flat$ CLARINET
1st BASSOON	1st VIOLIN
1st OBOE	

### ADDITIONAL PARTS FOR GRAND ORCHESTRA

1st and 2nd HORNS in F	2nd FLUTE
2nd OBOE	HARP
2nd BASSOON	

# Oiseaux Tristes

SAD BIRDS

MAURICE RAVEL

Arranged by FELIX GUENTHER  
Edited by Joseph E. Maddy

Piano Conductor

*Molto Adagio*

Flute  
*pp*

1

Fl.  
Ob.  
*pp*  
Horn  
Cl. I  
*pp* Va. C.S.  
B<sup>n</sup> I  
D.B. C.S.

2

V. I<sup>o</sup>  
*molto espr.*  
D.B.  
C.  
B<sup>n</sup> II

3

Fl.  
Cl. I  
*pp* Cl. II  
B<sup>n</sup>  
H<sup>n</sup>  
D.B.  
*pp* Cl.

Piano Conductor

ob. ob. >

Tr. C.

Va.

4

Fl.   
 ob.   
 Cl.   
 p

Viola

VI   
 p espr.

B.I. espr.   
 H.

5

VI   
 pp

Fl.   
 2

ob.   
 VI   
 B.I.

VI Solo

Glockensp.   
 (Harp)   
 Celesta

ob.

pp v. Trem.

Fl. I   
 Fl. II

2. h.   
 Va. pizz.

Hr.

Piano Conductor

6

Musical score for measures 6-7. The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of two flats. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line with a melodic line and a piano accompaniment. The second system includes a woodwind line with a clarinet (Cl. 1) and an oboe (Ob. II) part, and a string line with a violin tremolo (V. Trem.) and a cello/piano part (C. p: ff). The third system includes a woodwind line with a clarinet (Cl. 2) and a harp/celesta/piano part. The score is marked with dynamics such as *pp* and *ff*.

7

Musical score for measures 8-10. The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of two flats. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line with a melodic line and a piano accompaniment. The second system includes a woodwind line with a clarinet (Cl. 2) and a violin tremolo (Va. Trem.) part, and a string line with a bassoon (B'n 1) and a cello/piano part (C. p: ff). The third system includes a woodwind line with a clarinet (Cl. 1) and a bassoon (B'n 2) part, and a string line with a cello/piano part (C. p: ff). The score is marked with dynamics such as *pp* and *ff*.

5  
Piano Conductor

8

Tr. 2  
Va.  
Cello  
Va.  
Cello  
D.B.

Measures 8-9: This system contains three staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. It features a trill in the second measure, marked 'Tr. 2'. The middle staff has a bass clef and contains two parts for the Viola (Va.) and Cello. The bottom staff has a bass clef and contains parts for the Cello and Double Bass (D.B.).

9

V.I. Solo  
Fl.  
Hr.  
D.B.

Measures 10-11: This system contains three staves. The top staff has a treble clef and contains a solo for the Violin I (V.I.). The middle staff has a bass clef and contains parts for the Flute (Fl.) and Horn (Hr.). The bottom staff has a bass clef and contains parts for the Cello and Double Bass (D.B.).

10

ob.  
Ci.  
Va  
Hr. I  
B'n

Measures 12-15: This system contains three staves. The top staff has a treble clef and contains parts for the Oboe (ob.) and Clarinet (Ci.). The middle staff has a treble clef and contains parts for the Viola (Va.) and Horn I (Hr. I). The bottom staff has a bass clef and contains parts for the Bassoon (B'n).

11

Cadenza Slow ad lib.

Piano or Harp solo  
ppp  
rit.

Measures 11-12: This system contains two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and is marked 'Piano or Harp solo' and 'ppp'. The bottom staff has a bass clef and is marked 'rit.'. The time signature is 2/8.

Piano Conductor

FL. I

FL. II

FL. I

FL. II

CL. I

pp

pp

pp

pp

12

CL. I

FL. Op.

p

p

B $\frac{1}{2}$

Cello D.B.

Va

Va

Va

13

Very slow

cello

pp

Hrn.

p

Va

D.B. Din.

Gong