



The American Viola Society

DIVERTISSEMENT
FOR VIOLA AND PIANO

Theodore Thomas
(1835-1905)



AVS Publications 006

Preface

Theodore Thomas (1835–1905) was a leading musical figure in nineteenth-century America. During his lengthy career he conducted his own Theodore Thomas Orchestra, The New York Philharmonic, and was the founding conductor of The Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The German-born Thomas was also an accomplished violin soloist and chamber and orchestral musician. Thomas is less well-known for his compositions and arrangements, most of which are housed in the Samuel R. and Marie Louise Rosenthal Archives of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The *Divertissement* for viola and piano is among Thomas's earliest works, dating from 1860. Composed for his friend George Matzka, violist in the Mason-Thomas String Quartet, the work is a rhapsodic, highly virtuosic work and an important addition to the Romantic repertoire for viola and piano.

David M. Bynog, editor
May 2010

2016 revision

The 2016 revision improves the layout of both the viola and piano parts and corrects numerous mistakes in the earlier 2010 edition. The 2016 revision fully supersedes the previous 2010 AVS edition.

Divertissement

VIOLA

Theodore Thomas
Edited by David M. Bynog

Lento

3

Con moto

5

9

11

Andante espressivo

12

20

27

ten. *pp* *p* *cresc. molto*

ff *dim.* *p* IV corde

III corde *cresc. e stringendo* *ff*

tranquillo *ten. p* *cresc. e stringendo*

f dim. pp p

f *dim.*

p

Divertissement

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Lento

Viola

ten. *pp* *p* *cresc. molto*

Piano

ff *ped.*

3

ff

dim. *p*

Con moto

IV corde 4

pp

5

III corde 2

cresc. e stringendo *ff*

cresc. e stringendo *ff*

162

Musical score for measures 162-163. The system includes a bass line with a 15/8 time signature and a grand staff. The bass line features a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The grand staff contains chords and melodic lines, with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) in the middle of the system.

164

Musical score for measures 164-167. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. The bass line has a 15/8 time signature and contains rests followed by a melodic phrase starting in measure 165. The grand staff features chords and melodic lines. Dynamic markings include *pp* (pianissimo) at the start of the grand staff and *fp* (fortissimo) in the middle. A fermata is placed over a note in measure 167.

168

Musical score for measures 168-171. The system includes a single treble staff and a grand staff. The treble staff begins with a trill (*tr*) and a dynamic marking of *p* (piano), followed by a crescendo marked *cresc. molto*. The grand staff features chords and melodic lines, with a dynamic marking of *fp* (fortissimo) at the start and *cresc. molto* in the middle. Some notes in the grand staff are marked with an 'x'.

172

(tr) *ff*

f *ff*

175

Lento

f quasi recit.

pp

182

p

mf *pp*

186 **Tempo primo**

Musical score for measures 186-188. The system includes a single treble clef staff and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features a melodic line in the treble staff with slurs and accents, and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff. The piano part starts with a *pp* dynamic marking.

189

Musical score for measures 189-191. The system includes a single bass clef staff and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features a melodic line in the bass staff with slurs and accents, and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff. The piano part starts with a *pp* dynamic marking and includes the instruction *cresc. e stringendo* with a dashed line indicating the progression.

192

Musical score for measures 192-194. The system includes a single bass clef staff and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features a melodic line in the bass staff with slurs and accents, and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff. The piano part includes a *5* fingering mark in the right hand.

Allegro

195

(cresc. e stringendo) ----- *ff*

(cresc. e stringendo) ----- *ff*

198

Tempo primo

200

Lento

Rall. *p* *pp*

mf *Rall.* *pp*



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