



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

tranquillo

12

Andante espressivo

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 consists of three staves: a single bass staff at the top and a grand staff (treble and bass) below. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and ties. A dynamic marking of *f* is present in the grand staff.

164

Musical score for measures 164-167. The system consists of three staves: a single bass staff at the top and a grand staff (treble and bass) below. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a melodic line in the top bass staff and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff. Dynamic markings include *pp* in the grand staff and *fp* in the grand staff. A fermata is present over the final measure.

168

Musical score for measures 168-171. The system consists of three staves: a single treble staff at the top and a grand staff (treble and bass) below. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a melodic line in the top treble staff and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff. Dynamic markings include *p* in the top staff, *fp* in the grand staff, and *cresc. molto* in both the top and grand staves. A trill is indicated in the top staff.

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 consists of three staves: a single treble clef staff at the top and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features a melodic line in the upper treble staff and a complex accompaniment in the grand staff. The piano dynamic is marked *pp*.

189

Musical score for measures 189-191. The system consists of three staves: a single bass clef staff at the top and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features a melodic line in the upper bass staff and a complex accompaniment in the grand staff. The piano dynamic is marked *pp*. Performance instructions include *cresc. e stringendo* with a dashed line indicating the duration of the effect.

192

Musical score for measures 192-194. The system consists of three staves: a single bass clef staff at the top and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features a melodic line in the upper bass staff and a complex accompaniment in the grand staff. A fermata is placed over the final note of the melodic line in measure 192, and a fingering '5' is indicated below it.

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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