Danses liquides oiseautiques
für Violine und Klavier
Oliver Frick
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About the notation:

Wiolin.

Almost the whole piece consists of glissandi. Because the pitch is changing constantly there are no noteheads but lines connecting the start and end pitch of the glissando.

In most cases there are no articulation marks above the line. This means that the whole glissando should be played as one note as indicated by the legato-bow. The changing of the bow should be as smooth and unperceptable as possible.

In some cases there are artikulation marks above the line. This means that the rhythm below the line should be played in the indicated articulation (staccato e.g.)

Piano:

For the piano part in page 4 and later there is a round metal or glass needed which will be used on the strings from h to f' to create glissandi. The metal (or glass) should be cylindrical, about 10 cm long, at least 1 cm thick and the surface must be absolutely plane and smooth in order not to harm the strings during the glissandi. There is a special glissando-device available on request from the composer which is suited best for this technique.

The notation for these glissandi consists of 3 staves:

- 1) The upper stave indicates the position of the metal (glass) on the strings: The clef indicates the far end of the strings on the top and the dampers on the bottom of the stave. This corresponds with the view inside the piano. Thus if the glass is notated near the bottom of the stave it is held close to the body of the player and if it is notated on the upper lines of the stave then the glass is held away from the body of the player.
- 2) The middle stave indicates the pitches that actually sound. The white notes indicate the pitch of the part of the strings which is closer to the player (in front of the glass). This pitch is the same for all the strings because the glass sets the closer parts of all the strings to the same length hence the pitch is the same. The black notes indicate the pitch of the other part of the string which is on the other side, behind the glass, away from the player. The pitch on this side of the string is different for all strings because the length of the strings is determined at the end of the piano and different for all strings.
- 3) The lower stave indicate the notes that are to be played on the keyboard.

N.B.

The notation on the upper stave and the sounding pitches correspond in the following way:

Because the pitch of the closer part of the strings is the same for all strings if the glass is used parallel to the dampers, these pitches (the white notes) correspond to the position of the glass. The closer the glass is held to the player, the higher the white pitches:





























