

# ***Sports et Divertissements (Sports and Pastimes)***

**translation of Satie's written commentary in the music manuscript  
(Satie wanted the texts read before the performance of each piece.)**

## **Preface**

This publication embodies two arts: drawing and music. The drawing part consists of lines – witty lines; the musical part of plain black dots. These two parts put together make an album. I suggest you turn its pages with a tolerant thumb and with a smile, for this is a work of pure whimsy. Let no one look for more.

For the dried up and stultified I have added a chorale, sober and suitable. This makes a sort of wormwood preamble, a way of starting out wholly austere and unfrivolous. I have put into it everything I know about boredom. I dedicate this chorale to those who already dislike me. And withdraw.

Erik Satie

## **Satie's written comments for individual pieces**

**UNAPPETIZING CHORALE.** Hypocritically... Crabbed and cantankerous ... May 14, 1914, in the morning on an empty stomach

**IN A SWING.** My heart it is that swings and swing and never gets dizzy ... What tiny feet it has ... Will it want to come back to my breast?

**COMMEDIA DEL 'ARTE.** Scaramouche boasts about the charms of military life ... "You get to know your way around," he says ... "The civilians are afraid of you and as for romantic adventures and all that!" ... "What a life!"

**CARNIVAL.** Confetti is falling around! ... That one has on a melancholy mask ... A tipsy Pierrot tries walking straight ... Enter gracefully some masked ladies ... People push to see them ... "Are they pretty?"

**FISHING.** Water purling at the bottom of a stream ... A fish arrives, then another, two others ... "What's up?" ... "It's just a fisherman, a poor fisherman" ... "Thanks" ... They all go away, including the fisherman ... Water purling at the bottom of a stream

**THE OCTOPUS.** The octopus sits in his cave ... He is teasing a crab and chasing it around ... He swallows it the wrong way ... He turns pale, stumbles over his own feet ... He takes a glass of salt water to settle his stomach ... The drink does him good, makes him feel more cheerful

**PICNIC.** Everybody has brought cold veal ... You have on a lovely white dress ... Oh my! An airplane! ... Not at all; it's a storm coming up

**PUSS IN THE CORNER.** The four mice ... The cat ... The mice tease the cat ... The cat stretches ... He pounces ... Pussy's got a corner

**THE TANGO - ENDLESS.** The tango is the Devil's dance ... His favorite one ... He uses it for cooling off ... His wife, his daughters, and his servants all cool off that way

# Sports et Divertissements

(*Sports and Pastimes*)  
for Brass Quintet

Erik Satie  
arr. Charles Decker

## 1. Choral Inappétissant (Unappetizing Chorale)

Slow, ponderous  $\text{♩} = 56$

This musical score page shows the first five measures of the piece. The instrumentation includes Trumpet 1 in B♭, Trumpet 2 in B♭, Horn in F, Trombone, and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). Dynamics are marked with 'f' (fortissimo) and 'ff' (fortississimo). Measure 1: Trumpet 1 and 2 play eighth-note patterns. Horn, Trombone, and Tuba provide harmonic support. Measure 2: Similar patterns continue. Measure 3: The instrumentation remains consistent with eighth-note patterns. Measure 4: The patterns continue with harmonic support from the lower brass. Measure 5: The patterns continue with harmonic support from the lower brass.

This continuation of the musical score shows measures 6 through 9. The instrumentation remains the same: Trumpet 1 in B♭, Trumpet 2 in B♭, Horn in F, Trombone, and Tuba. The key signature changes to two sharps (G major). Measure 6: The upper brass play eighth-note patterns, while the lower brass provide harmonic support. Measure 7: The patterns continue with harmonic support from the lower brass. Measure 8: The patterns continue with harmonic support from the lower brass. Measure 9: The patterns continue with harmonic support from the lower brass. Measure 10: The patterns continue with harmonic support from the lower brass.

2. La Balancoire (In a Swing)

Slowly ♩ = 68

Musical score for the first system of "La Balancoire". The score consists of five staves. The top three staves are treble clef, 3/4 time, and have a key signature of one sharp. The bottom two staves are bass clef, 3/4 time, and have a key signature of one sharp. The tempo is indicated as "Slowly ♩ = 68". Dynamics "mp" are marked on the first two treble staves and the first two bass staves. Measure 1 starts with a rest followed by eighth-note patterns. Measure 2 begins with eighth-note patterns on the treble staves, transitioning to sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 3 continues with sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 4 begins with eighth-note patterns on the bass staves, transitioning to sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 5 continues with sixteenth-note patterns.

Musical score for the second system of "La Balancoire". The score consists of five staves. The top three staves are treble clef, 3/4 time, and have a key signature of one sharp. The bottom two staves are bass clef, 3/4 time, and have a key signature of one sharp. The measure number "5" is indicated at the beginning. Dynamics "mf" are marked on the first two treble staves and the first two bass staves. Measure 1 starts with a rest followed by eighth-note patterns. Measure 2 begins with eighth-note patterns on the treble staves, transitioning to sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 3 continues with sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 4 begins with eighth-note patterns on the bass staves, transitioning to sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 5 continues with sixteenth-note patterns.

### 3. La Comedie Italienne (Commedia del 'Arte)

In Neopolitan style  $\text{♩} = 84$

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score consists of five staves. The top staff uses a treble clef, the second staff an alto clef, the third staff a tenor clef, the fourth staff a bass clef, and the fifth staff a bass clef. The key signature is one sharp. Measure 1 starts with a dynamic *mf*. Measures 2 and 3 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 4 begins with a dynamic *mp*. Measure 5 ends with a dynamic *mp*.

Musical score for measures 6-9. The score continues with five staves. Measure 6 starts with a dynamic *mf*. Measure 7 starts with a dynamic *mf*. Measure 8 starts with a dynamic *f*. Measure 9 starts with a dynamic *f*. Measure 10 starts with a dynamic *f*.

#### 4. Le Carnaval (Carnival)

Lightly ♩ = 106

Musical score for section 4, Le Carnaval (Carnival). The score consists of five staves. The first three staves are in 2/4 time, while the last two are in 2/2 time. The key signature is one sharp. Measure 1: Treble staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Second staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Bass staff has rests. Measure 2: Treble staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Second staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Bass staff has rests. Measure 3: Treble staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Second staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Bass staff has rests. Measures 4-8: Treble staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Second staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Bass staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). The dynamic changes to *mp* for the bass staff in measures 4-8.

Musical score for section 4, Le Carnaval (Carnival). The score consists of five staves. The first three staves are in 2/4 time, while the last two are in 2/2 time. The key signature is one sharp. Measure 9: Treble staff has eighth-note pairs (f). Second staff has eighth-note pairs (f). Bass staff has rests. Measures 10-16: Treble staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Second staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Bass staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). The dynamic changes to *f* for the bass staff in measures 10-16.

Calm  $\text{J.} = 68$

5. La Peche (Fishing)

Musical score for 'La Peche (Fishing)' featuring five staves. The first three staves are in treble clef, the fourth in bass clef, and the fifth in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp. Measure 1: The top staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). The second staff has eighth-note pairs (mp). The third staff has eighth-note pairs (mp). Measures 2-4: The top staff has eighth-note pairs. The second staff has eighth-note pairs. The third staff has eighth-note pairs. The fourth staff is silent. The fifth staff has eighth-note pairs (mp) starting in measure 4.

Musical score for 'La Peche (Fishing)' featuring five staves. The key signature changes to two sharps. Measure 5: All staves are silent. Measures 6-7: The top staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). The second staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). The third staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). The fourth staff has eighth-note pairs. The fifth staff has eighth-note pairs (mf). Measures 8-9: The top staff has eighth-note pairs. The second staff has eighth-note pairs. The third staff has eighth-note pairs. The fourth staff has eighth-note pairs. The fifth staff has eighth-note pairs.

## 6. La Pieuvre (The Octopus)

Quite fast  $\text{♩} = 120$ 

Musical score for "La Pieuvre (The Octopus)" from "Sports et Divertissements". The score consists of two systems of music.

**System 1 (Measures 1-8):** The score features five staves. The top three staves are treble clef, 2/4 time, and key signature of two sharps. The bottom two staves are bass clef, 2/4 time, and key signature of one sharp. Measure 1: All staves are silent. Measures 2-8: The bass staff begins with eighth-note patterns. Measures 9-17: The bass staff continues with eighth-note patterns. Measure 17: The bass staff ends with a dynamic of *mp*.

**System 2 (Measures 9-17):** The score features five staves. The top three staves are treble clef, 2/4 time, and key signature of two sharps. The bottom two staves are bass clef, 2/4 time, and key signature of one sharp. Measures 9-17: The bass staff begins with eighth-note patterns. Measures 15-17: The bass staff ends with a dynamic of *mp*.

## 7. Le Picnic (Picnic)

**Dance like  $\text{♩} = 104$**

**7**

**9**

**7**

**9**

## **8. Les Quatre Coins (Puss in the Corner)**

Merrily ♩ = 120

**Merrily** ♩ = 120

Musical score for piano showing measures 1-6. The score consists of five staves: treble, soprano, alto, bass, and piano. Measure 1: Treble staff has a dotted half note (mp). Soprano staff has a half note. Alto staff has a half note. Bass staff has a half note. Measure 2: Treble staff has a half note. Soprano staff has a half note. Alto staff has a half note. Bass staff has a half note. Measure 3: Treble staff has a half note. Soprano staff has a half note. Alto staff has a half note. Bass staff has a half note. Measure 4: Treble staff has a half note. Soprano staff has a half note. Alto staff has a half note. Bass staff has a half note. Measure 5: Treble staff has a half note. Soprano staff has a half note. Alto staff has a half note. Bass staff has a half note. Measure 6: Treble staff has a half note. Soprano staff has a half note. Alto staff has a half note. Bass staff has a half note. The piano staff shows a bass line with eighth notes and sixteenth-note patterns, with dynamics mp and f.

7

Musical score for piano in G major (two sharps) and common time. The score consists of two staves. The upper staff (treble clef) has rests in measures 1-4, a melodic line in measure 5, a rest in measure 6, another melodic line in measure 7, and rests in measures 8-9. Measure 10 begins with a melodic line. The lower staff (bass clef) has rests in measures 1-4, a melodic line in measure 5, a rest in measure 6, another melodic line in measure 7, and rests in measures 8-9. Measure 10 begins with a melodic line. Measure numbers 1-10 are indicated above the staff. Dynamics include *mf* (measures 5, 7, 10), *3* (measure 7), and *mf* (measure 10).

## 9. Le Tango (The Tango - Endless)

Moderately with great boredom  $\text{♩} = 64$ 

Musical score for piano, featuring four staves (treble, bass, and two intermediate staves) in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The tempo is marked as "Moderately with great boredom" with a quarter note equal to 64. The dynamics are mostly muted (mp), except for dynamic markings "mf" in measures 3 and 11. Measure 3 starts with a forte dynamic. Measure 11 starts with a forte dynamic. Measure 3 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.

Musical score for piano, continuing from the previous page. The score consists of four staves in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The tempo is marked as "Moderately with great boredom" with a quarter note equal to 64. The dynamics are mostly muted (mp), except for dynamic markings "mf" in measures 11 and 13. Measure 11 starts with a forte dynamic. Measure 13 starts with a forte dynamic. Measure 13 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.