



ÉTUDES FOR THE
BASSOON
VIRTUOSO

Six Character Studies
for Solo Bassoon

Damián Montaña

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I'M REALLY GLAD YOU'RE SPENDING TIME WITH THIS COLLECTION.

I WROTE THESE ÉTUDES WITH THE BELIEF THAT TECHNIQUE AND EXPRESSION AREN'T SEPARATE, BUT PART OF THE SAME MUSICAL INSTINCT.

THEY'RE DESIGNED TO BUILD AGILITY, CONTROL, AND RANGE, WHILE ALSO ENCOURAGING A MORE IMAGINATIVE WAY OF PLAYING. YOU'LL FIND SHIFTING METERS, CONTRASTING TEXTURES, AND MOMENTS THAT CALL FOR PRECISION, COLOR, AND A WILLINGNESS TO TAKE RISKS.

I WANTED THESE ÉTUDES TO FEEL LIKE MUSIC, NOT JUST EXERCISES. EACH ONE HAS A DISTINCT CHARACTER—FROM THE SINEWY SIDEWINDER TO THE CONTROLLED FRAGILITY OF THE FINAL ÉTUDE. I HOPE THEY INVITE YOU TO ENGAGE WITH THEM CREATIVELY AND PERSONALLY.

I HOPE THEY GIVE YOU SPACE TO EXPERIMENT AND TAKE CHANCES, AND THAT YOU ENJOY BRINGING THEM TO LIFE IN YOUR OWN MUSICAL VOICE.

DAMIÁN MONTAÑO

ÉTUDE NO. 1 SIDEWINDER

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(accidentals do not carry through the octave)

Slithering ♩. = 72

p *mf*

4
p sub. *f sub.* *pp*

7
f *p*

10
f *pp*

13
p *mf*

16
p sub. *f* *p* *sf*

19
f *p* *sf* *p* *mf*

22
p *f*

25
pp

28

p *mf*

Musical notation for measures 28-30 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 28 starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. A slur covers measures 28-30. Measure 30 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic.

31

mpsub.

Musical notation for measures 31-33 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 31 has a mezzo-piano (*mpsub.*) dynamic. Slurs are present over measures 31-32 and 32-33.

34

f *f* *pp*

Musical notation for measures 34-36 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 34 has a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 35 has a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 36 has a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic.

37

p cresc. *f*

Musical notation for measures 37-39 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 37 has a piano (*p*) dynamic with a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking. Measure 39 has a forte (*f*) dynamic. A key signature change to one sharp (F#) occurs at the start of measure 39.

40

Hesitantly, with rubato *mp* *pp* ' A tempo

Musical notation for measures 40-43 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 40 has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measure 42 has a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic. Measure 43 has an 'A tempo' marking.

44

mp *mf* *p*

Musical notation for measures 44-46 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 44 has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measure 45 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measure 46 has a piano (*p*) dynamic.

47

f *p*

Musical notation for measures 47-49 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 47 has a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 49 has a piano (*p*) dynamic.

50

f *ff*

Musical notation for measures 50-52 in bass clef, 6/8 time. Measure 50 has a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 51 has an *ff* dynamic with an 8-measure slur. Measure 52 has an *ff* dynamic.

ÉTUDE NO. 2
THE JESTERCapricious $\text{♩} = 54$

54

p *f* *p* *f*

58

f

62

p *f* *p* *f*

66

f

70

p *mf* *p*

75

f *pp* *p*

79

f *p* *f* *p*

84

f *p*

87

f *p* *ppp* *mp*

91

mf

96

f *p* *f*

100

mf *p* *f*

105

p *f* *f*

109

p *p*

112

f *p* *pp* *f*

117

ff *pp*

ÉTUDE NO. 3

LA GUITARRA

122 As if improvised ♩. = 76

122 *f* 3 3 3

126 *p* 3 3 3 *mf*

130 3 2 3 2

133 *f* *p* *ritenuto* *accel.* 3 3 3 *A tempo* 3 3 *mp*

136 3 3 3 *f* *mp*

138 *p* 3 3 3 *pp* 5:6

140 *mf* 3 3 3 *p*

143 3 3 3 *f* *p* *pp*

146

f 3 3

Musical notation for measures 146-147. Measure 146 starts with a bass clef, a 7/8 time signature, and a forte (*f*) dynamic. It features a triplet of eighth notes (F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 147 continues with a quarter note (B) and a quarter note (C), followed by a triplet of eighth notes (D, E, F) with a slur. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

148

p 5 5 5 5 *f* 3 3

Musical notation for measures 148-150. Measure 148 starts with a bass clef, a 12/8 time signature, and a piano (*p*) dynamic. It features a quintuplet of eighth notes (F, G, A, B, C) with a slur. Measure 149 continues with a quintuplet of eighth notes (D, E, F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 150 starts with a 4/4 time signature and a forte (*f*) dynamic, featuring a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with a slur.

150

p 3 3 3 *f* 3

Musical notation for measures 150-151. Measure 150 starts with a bass clef, a 10/8 time signature, and a piano (*p*) dynamic. It features a triplet of eighth notes (F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 151 continues with a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with a slur, followed by a quarter note (E) and a quarter note (F). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

152

3 3 3

Musical notation for measures 152-154. Measure 152 starts with a bass clef, a 11/16 time signature, and a triplet of eighth notes (F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 153 continues with a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with a slur. Measure 154 starts with a 5/8 time signature and a triplet of eighth notes (E, F, G) with a slur.

155

p 3 3 *mf* 3

Musical notation for measures 155-157. Measure 155 starts with a bass clef, a 5/8 time signature, and a piano (*p*) dynamic. It features a triplet of eighth notes (F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 156 continues with a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with a slur. Measure 157 starts with a 11/16 time signature and a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, featuring a triplet of eighth notes (E, F, G) with a slur.

158

p 3 3 3

Musical notation for measures 158-160. Measure 158 starts with a bass clef, a 3/8 time signature, and a piano (*p*) dynamic. It features a triplet of eighth notes (F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 159 continues with a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with a slur. Measure 160 starts with a 4/4 time signature and a triplet of eighth notes (E, F, G) with a slur.

161

f 3 5:4

Musical notation for measures 161-162. Measure 161 starts with a bass clef, a 12/8 time signature, and a forte (*f*) dynamic. It features a triplet of eighth notes (F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 162 continues with a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with a slur, followed by a 5:4 ratio bracket over a quarter note (E).

162

p *f* *ff*

Musical notation for measures 162-164. Measure 162 starts with a bass clef, a 6/8 time signature, and a piano (*p*) dynamic. It features a triplet of eighth notes (F, G, A) with a slur. Measure 163 continues with a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with a slur, followed by a quarter note (E) and a quarter note (F). Measure 164 starts with a 6/8 time signature and a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic, featuring a triplet of eighth notes (G, A, B) with a slur.

ÉTUDE NO. 4 SOARING

164 Expansive ♩ = 80

f *p*

Musical staff 164-171: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 164-171. Dynamics: *f* (measures 164-170), *p* (measures 171-172).

168

f *p* *f* *p*

Musical staff 168-171: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 168-171. Dynamics: *f* (measures 168-170), *p* (measures 171-172).

172

f

Musical staff 172-174: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 172-174. Dynamics: *f* (measures 172-174).

175

f *p*

Musical staff 175-178: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 175-178. Dynamics: *f* (measures 175-177), *p* (measures 178-179).

179

f *p* *f*

Musical staff 179-181: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 179-181. Dynamics: *f* (measures 179-180), *p* (measure 180), *f* (measures 181-182).

182

p *f*

Musical staff 182-184: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 182-184. Dynamics: *p* (measures 182-183), *f* (measures 184-185).

185

f

Musical staff 185-187: Bass clef, 7/16 time signature. Measures 185-187. Dynamics: *f* (measures 185-187).

188 Tranquil and broadly, with rubato ♩ = 66

p *mf* *p*

Musical staff 188-191: Bass clef, 9/8 time signature. Measures 188-191. Dynamics: *p* (measures 188-189), *mf* (measures 190-191), *p* (measures 192-193).

192

p *mf* *f*

196

mf *p* *pp*

198

mf *pp* *f*

Tempo primo ♩ = 80

201

p *f*

204

p *f*

207

p

210

f *p* *f*

214

p *ff*

ÉTUDE NO. 5
RAGTIME

217 Jaunty ♩ = 66

Musical notation for measures 217-220. The piece is in 2/4 time with a tempo of ♩ = 66. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The notation includes dynamic markings *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. There are slurs and accents over the notes.

Musical notation for measures 220-223. The notation includes dynamic markings *f*, *p sub.*, and *mf*. There are triplets in measures 221 and 222, and slurs and accents over the notes.

Musical notation for measures 223-226. The notation includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. There are triplets in measures 224 and 225, and slurs and accents over the notes.

Musical notation for measures 226-229. The notation includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. There are triplets in measures 228 and 229, and slurs and accents over the notes.

Musical notation for measures 229-232. The notation includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. There is a triplet in measure 232, and slurs and accents over the notes.

Musical notation for measures 232-235. The notation includes dynamic markings *ff* and *mf*. There are triplets in measures 232 and 233, and slurs and accents over the notes.

Musical notation for measures 235-238. The notation includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. There are triplets in measures 236 and 237, and slurs and accents over the notes.

238

p sub.

241

mf *p sub.*

244

f *ff* *mp*

247

mf *mp*

250

mf *p*

252

f

255

ff

ÉTUDE NO. 6

THIN ICE

Delicate, with tension ♩ = 138

257
3+2+2

mf

261

p

265

f *p* *mf*

269

p *pp*

274

mf

278

f *p* *f*

281

p *mp* *mf*

284

f *p* *f*

288 Cantando ♩ = 66

p *mf* *p*

5:4 3

292

f *mf* *p cresc.*

4:6 3

295 as if a Waltz

f 3 *pp leggiero* *mf* *p*

3:2 4:6

298

mf *p* *p* *f* 3

302 A tempo ♩ = 138

p *p* *mp* *mp*

306

mf *p* *p* *p*

4:6 2+3+2 3+2+2 3:2 3:4

310

mf *p* *f* *p*

3:2 4:5 2+3+2 3:2 3:2

314

f *ff* *fp < ff* *fp < ff*

3+2+2 5:4