

Six Bagatelles for Guitar Solo

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Each of these short, unpretentious works for guitar solo are based on either a style or a particular work of “non-western” or “American Vernacular” music.

(i) “Rebetiko” is based on 1920s acoustic recordings of Greek Rebetiko music.

(ii) “Old Joe Clarke” is an African American folk song, and I transcribed it from a field recording found on a Smithsonian-Folkways album, although I can’t remember which one (there are several versions).

(iii) “Mr. Dowland’s Nightmare” is a short series of genre variations based on the beginning of John Dowland's lute work, “Mr. Dowland’s Midnight”.

(iv) “Washington Avenue” is a short “ragtime-waltz” written in the style of ragtime composers from the early 20th century. Washington Ave., Sedalia, Missouri, is where Scott Joplin might have lived around 1900.

(v) “Taqsim” is inspired by Turkish Oud music.

(vi) is a variation on an American folk tune, “Lights in the Valley,” which I originally heard on a Smithsonian-Folkways album (“Masters of Old-Time Country Autoharp”) as played by Neriah and Kenneth Banfield . The song is an old mountain gospel song popularized in the 1930s by “J. E. Mainer’s Mountaineers”.

Performance note: all notes sound one octave below that which is written, except for natural harmonics which sound "at pitch".

Six Bagatelles for Guitar Solo

Matthew de Lacey Davidson

I.

$\text{♩} = 132$

mf

3

p *mf* *f*

Sul B & E

5

mf *p*

Sul B & E

7

mf *mp* *ff*

9

sfz *mp* *sfz* *f* *mf*

11

f *mf* *mp* *ff*

14

p *f*

Musical score for guitar solo, measures 16-31. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of a single melodic line with a bass line indicated by a dashed line. The dynamics range from *mp* to *fff*. The piece features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure 16 starts with *mp*, followed by *mf* in measure 17, *pp* in measure 18, and *mf* in measure 19. Measure 19 has a *ff* dynamic. Measure 20 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 21 has a *ff* dynamic. Measure 22 has a *mp* dynamic. Measure 23 has a *ff* dynamic. Measure 24 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 25 has a *mf* dynamic. Measure 26 has a *mp* dynamic. Measure 27 has a *pp* dynamic. Measure 28 has a *mf* dynamic. Measure 29 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 30 has a *mf* dynamic. Measure 31 has a *fff* dynamic.

33

p *f*

36

mp *mf*

39

ff *mf*

42

mp *sfz* *sfz*

44

mf *f*

46

mf *mp* *ff*

48

mp *ff* *rit.* *5*

II.

$\text{♩} = 88$

mp

6 *mf*

11 *mf*

15 *mp*

20

26 *f*

30 *ff*

35 *mp* sul tasto *pp* sul tasto

Approx. dur. = 1'00"
"Old Joe Clarke"

III.

$\text{♩} = 80$
sul tasto

4

7

10

13

16 $\text{♩} = 88$ Normale - à la Haydn

21

27

mf *mp* *mf* *ppp* *ff* *sfz*

32 ♩ = 72 *à la Schubert*

Musical notation for measures 32-34. The piece is in 4/4 time with a tempo of ♩ = 72. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, and a bass line with chords and eighth notes. The dynamic marking is *mp*.

Musical notation for measures 35-37. The melodic line continues with eighth and sixteenth notes, and the bass line provides harmonic support with chords and eighth notes.

Musical notation for measures 38-41. Measure 38 features a triplet of eighth notes. The dynamic marking is *mf*.

Musical notation for measures 42-46. Measure 42 has a tempo of ♩ = 88. Measure 43 has a tempo of ♩ = 66. The piece is titled *à la Prokofiev*. The music includes a *ppp* section, a *ff* section, and a *mp* section. A *sffz* marking is present in measure 45. The key signature changes to two sharps (D major).

Musical notation for measures 47-51. The piece is marked *sul pont.* (sul ponticello). The dynamic markings are *p* and *mf*. The music features a melodic line with eighth notes and a bass line with chords and eighth notes.

Musical notation for measures 52-55. The piece is titled *Normale*. The dynamic markings are *f* and *p*. The music features a melodic line with eighth notes and a bass line with chords and eighth notes.

Musical notation for measures 56-60. The piece is titled *à la Django*. Measure 56 has a tempo of ♩ = 88. Measure 57 has a tempo of ♩ = 102. The music includes a *ppp* section, a *ff* section, and a *mf* section. A *sffz* marking is present in measure 58. The piece includes glissando markings (*gliss.*) in measures 59 and 60. The dynamic markings are *mf* and *f*.

Musical notation for measures 61-64. Measure 61 features a triplet of eighth notes. The dynamic markings are *mp* and *mp*. The music features a melodic line with eighth notes and a bass line with chords and eighth notes.

66

mf

71

gliss.

f

76

80

85

ff

mp

Detailed description: This page contains the musical score for measures 66 through 85 of a guitar solo. The music is written in a single system with five staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The score includes various guitar-specific notations such as triplets, slurs, and accents. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *ff* (fortissimo), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). A glissando is indicated in measure 71. The piece concludes with a double bar line in measure 85.

Approx. dur. = 2'50"
"Mr. Dowland's Nightmare"

IV.

$\text{♩} = 96$

mf *mp*

5 *mf* *p*

10 *mp* *mf* *mp*

14 *mf*

19 *p*

24 *mf* *mp*

29 *mf*

34

mp *mf* *mp*

39

mf *p*

44

$\text{♩} = 72$

pp

Quickly up and down on all the strings above the nut, ad lib.

49

ff *mp*

Approx. dur. = 1'30"
"Washington Avenue"

V.

$\text{♩} = 132$

f

5

3

$\text{♩} = 108$

mf

p

rit.

5

mf

mp

3

3

3

3

3

$\frac{1}{2}$

rit.....

3

8

$\text{♩} = 88$

mf

$\frac{1}{2}$

rit.

a tempo

pp

11

$\text{♩} = 92$

sul pont.

f

15

18

sul tasto

mp

21

mf

24

mp *pp*

27

mf

30

Normale

p *f*

34

mf

37

mf

40

mf

43

mp *f*

46

mp

VI.

♩ = 96

mf

mp

7

mp

sul pont.

13

mp

f

18

mf

22

Normale

mp

26

31

mp

37

mf

mp

The musical score is written for guitar solo in 2/4 time. It consists of 37 measures across eight staves. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 96. The score includes various dynamics: *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *f* (forte). Performance instructions include *sul pont.* (sul ponticello) and *Normale*. The piece features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, with some measures containing triplets. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into sections by measure numbers: 1-6, 7-12, 13-17, 18-21, 22-30, 31-36, and 37.

42 **accel.**

47 **a tempo** **mf** **fff** **sfz** **sul pont.**

Approx. dur. = 1'00"
"Lights in the Valley"
Total approx. dur. = 10'00"