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Twenty-two miniatures of the Tarot: a cycle for chamber ensemble

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Twenty-two miniatures of the Tarot: a cycle for chamber ensemble

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Music
in
Composition

by
Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca
B.A., University of Montreal, 2013
August 2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Arcana</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>The Magician (for Bb Clarinet Solo)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>The High Priestess (for Quartet)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>The Empress (for Quintet)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>The Emperor (for Quintet)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>The Pope (for String Quartet)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>The Lover (for Quintet)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>The Chariot (for Violin Solo)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>Justice (for C Flute Solo)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX</td>
<td>The Hermit (for Quartet)</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>The Wheel of Fortune (for 11 Musicians)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI</td>
<td>Strength (for Viola Solo)</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII</td>
<td>The Hanged Man (for Sextet)</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII</td>
<td>The Nameless Arcanum (for Duo)</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIV</td>
<td>Temperance (for Oboe Solo)</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XV</td>
<td>The Devil (for Duo)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVI</td>
<td>The Tower (for Percussion Solo)</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVII</td>
<td>The Star (for Soprano Solo)</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVIII</td>
<td>The Moon (for Quartet)</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIX</td>
<td>The Sun (for Cello Solo)</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX</td>
<td>Judgment (for Duo)</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXI</td>
<td>The World (for Piano Solo)</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXII</td>
<td>The Fool (for Quintet)</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vita | 74
Abstract


Keywords: Chamber Music, Miniature, Major Arcana, Tarot de Marseille
Program Notes

Major Arcana I - The Magician (for Bb Clarinet Solo), or the first major arcana of the Tarot, represents the spontaneity of youth with all its potential of creativity, and the origins of life on earth for a human being.

Major Arcana II - The High Priestess (for Quartet), or the second major arcana of the Tarot represents the wisdom of adulthood.

Major Arcana III - The Empress (for Quintet), or the third major arcana of the Tarot, represents the intelligence and the freedom of speech of a young person.

Major Arcana IV - The Emperor (for Quintet), or the fourth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the stability and the mastery of the material world.

Lyrics by Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca:

The Emperor
I'm The Emperor,
The father.
The sitting stability.
And I'm the materiality of the number four.
I'm your inner warrior.
Masculinity of your being.

El Emperador
Soy el Emperador,
El padre.
La estabilidad sentada.
Y soy la materialidad del quatro.
Soy tu guerrero interior.
Masculinidad de tu ser.

Major Arcana V - The Pope (for String Quartet), or the fifth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the spiritual power, the superior knowledge and the teaching.

Major Arcana VI - The Lover (for Quintet), or the sixth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the union and the emotional and social life of a young person who falls in love for the first time and who must make choices in life.

Lyrics by Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca:

The Lover
I'm The Lover,
Ah! The Lover,
Almost invisible.
I'm living in the ecstasy of the other,
This other who is none other than me.

El Enamorado
Soy El Enamorado,
Ah! El Amante,
Almost invisible.
Vivo en el éxtasis del otro,
Ese otro que no es otro que yo.

Major Arcana VII - The Chariot (for Violin Solo), or the seventh major arcana of the Tarot, represents the power of action in the world and autonomy.

Major Arcana VIII - Justice (for C Flute Solo), or the eighth major arcana of the Tarot, represents Law and Harmony.

Major Arcana IX - The Hermit (for Quartet), or the ninth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the knowledge, the experience and the wisdom of the Old Age.
**Major Arcana X - The Wheel of Fortune** (for eleven musicians), or the tenth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the beginning or the end of a new cycle of life and the impermanence of life.

**Major Arcana XI - Strength** (for Viola Solo), or the eleventh major arcana of the Tarot, represents the instinctive energy and its control.

**Major Arcana XII - The Hanged Man** (for Sextet), or the twelfth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the gift of oneself and the meditative life.

**Major Arcana XIII - The Nameless Arcanum** (for Duo), or the thirteenth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the principle of radical change and transformation to eliminate what prevents the human being from moving forward.

**Major Arcana XIV - Temperance** (for Oboe Solo), or the fourteenth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the principle of healing and moderation.

**Major Arcana XV - The Devil** (for Duo), or the fifteenth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the hidden powers of the human subconscious.

Lyrics by Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>The Devil</strong></th>
<th><strong>El Diablo</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Devil,</td>
<td>Diablo,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am,</td>
<td>Soy,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The fire,</td>
<td>El fuego,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which burns in you,</td>
<td>Que arde en ti,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The passion of enjoying my body,</td>
<td>La passion de gozar de mi cuerpo,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The pleasure is my temple,</td>
<td>El placer es mi templo,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All that I attract</td>
<td>Todo lo que atraigo,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I devour it immediately!</td>
<td>Lo devero en seguida!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Major Arcana XVI - The Tower** (for Percussion Solo), or the sixteenth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the expression and the freedom of what was imprisoned in the human being.

**Major Arcana XVII - The Star** (for Soprano Solo), or the seventeenth major arcana of the Tarot, represents the power of artistic inspiration and the principle of fertility.

Lyrics by Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>The Star</strong></th>
<th><strong>La Estrella</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Follow me,</td>
<td>Sigueme,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’m your Star,</td>
<td>Soy tu Estrella,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Temple,</td>
<td>El Templo,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of The Arts,</td>
<td>De los Artes,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacred Spring,</td>
<td>Fuente sagrada,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Gift,</td>
<td>El Don,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That heals,</td>
<td>Que cura,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Humanity,</td>
<td>La Humanidad,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow me,</td>
<td>Sigueme.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Major Arcana XVIII - The Moon (for Quartet), or the eighteenth major arcana of The Tarot, represents the receptive female power and the imagination.

Major Arcana XIX - The Sun (for Cello Solo), or the nineteenth major arcana of The Tarot, represents the paternal archetype and the principle of reciprocity.

Major Arcana XX - Judgement (for Duo), or the twentieth major arcana of The Tarot, represents the awakening of consciousness and the renaissance of someone.

Major Arcana XXI - The World (for Piano Solo), or the twenty-first major arcana of The Tarot, represents the total realization of a human being on earth with maximal expansion.

Major Arcana XXII - The Fool (for Quintet), or the twenty-second major arcana of The Tarot, represents marginality, freedom and madness.

Lyrics by Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca:

_The Fool_  
I'm the Fool,  
A change of consciousness,  
In your being.

_El Loco_  
El Loco soy,  
Un cambio de consciencia,  
En tu ser.
Score in C

Major Arcana I: The Magician

Solo for Bb Clarinet

**Lento** $\frac{1}{4} = 40$

From blow to real pitch → Non vibrato → Molto vibrato → Non vibrato

**Andante** $\frac{1}{4} = 60$

Tempo di Valse

**Tempo di Valse**
Cadenza - free tempo

accel.

go to high vibrato

go back to normal vibrato

Lento $\frac{1}{4} = 40$

Tempo di Valse

Non vibrato $\rightarrow$ Molto vibrato $\rightarrow$ Non vibrato $\rightarrow$ From real pitch to blow
Score in C

Major Arcana II: The High Priestess

For Quartet

Andante $j = 60$

Flute

Violin

Bb Clarinet

Vibraphone

High motor
With 2 soft mallets

Fl.

Vln.

Cl.

Vib.

6

flz.

flz.
Major Arcana III: The Empress

For Quintet

\( \text{For Quintet} \)

\( \text{C Flute} \)

\( \text{Oboe} \)

\( \text{Violin} \)

\( \text{Viola} \)

\( \text{Susp. Cymb.} \)

\( \text{(small)} \)

\( \text{Fl.} \)

\( \text{Ob.} \)

\( \text{Vln.} \)

\( \text{Vla.} \)

\( \text{S. C.} \)

\( \text{To Vib.} \)

\( \text{flz.} \)

\( \text{fp} \)

\( \text{fp} \)

\( \text{fp} \)

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\( \text{fp} \)
Fl.
Ob.
Vln.
Vla.
Vib.

5

 mf

 p

 arco

 mf

 p

 Snare Drum (without chain), with 1 medium mallet
Tom Tom, with 1 soft mallet

Vibraphone
High Motor
2 medium mallets

9
Score in C

Major Arcana IV: The Emperor

For Quintet

Andante \( \frac{J}{J} = 80 \)

Soprano

Flute

Bb Clarinet

Violin

Gong

Soy Empe - ra - dor, el pa - dre.

Adagio \( \frac{J}{J} = 60 \)

With authority

Vibraphone

High motor

Andante \( \frac{J}{J} = 80 \)

Sopr.

C Fl.

Bb Cl.

Vln.

Vib.
Adagio $\approx 60$

Andante $\approx 80$

Andante $\approx 80$

whisper $\approx 80$
Major Arcana V: The Pope

for String Quartet

Lento \( \frac{3}{4} = 60 \)

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

fff ffff mp sf sp pppp pp PPP ff p mf f

fff ffff ffff ffff ffff mf p f ff pp ppp

p mf f ppp pp ff sp pppp sf ffff ffff mp

pizz. arco

pizz. arco

pizz. arco

pizz. arco

pizz. arco

pizz. arco
Major Arcana VI: The Lover
for Quintet

Andante  $j = 80$

* Refers to a rhythm alternation of one hand on and off mouth while singing.

Andante  $j = 70$

Tenderly

With wonder
repeat this pattern by accelerating until the end of the measure

Ah! el a-man-te. casi invisible.

Vibraphone
High motor
4 soft mallets
repeat this pattern by accelerating until the end of the next measure
Major Arcana VII: The Chariot
Solo for Violin

Andante  \( \text{\textit{j} = 90} \)

1

\( \text{Sul A} \)

Sul D

p

sf

3

arco

ord.

s.p.

ord.

Sul E

molto rall.

Sul D

Sul G

sp

Sul A

sf

sp

Lento  \( \text{\textit{j} = 60} \)

5

Sul D

Sul A

sf

sp

Andante  \( \text{\textit{j} = 90} \)

9

Sul D

sf

mf
Major Arcana VIII : Justice
Solo for C Flute

Allegro, alla tango \( \downarrow = 100 \)
Score in C

**Major Arcana X : The Wheel of Fortune**

*For 11 musicians*

**Allegro** \(\text{\textit{\textit{\textit{\textit{l} = 110}}}}\)

- **C Flute**
- **Oboe**
- **Bb Clarinet**
- **Claves**
- **Marimba**
- **Piano**
- **Soprano**
- **Violin 1**
- **Violin 2**
- **Viola**
- **Cello**
Major Arcana XI: Strength
Solo for Viola

Adagio \( \frac{\text{d}^\circ}{\text{d}^\circ} = 30 \)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9
Sound pitches

Sul A  Sul A  Sul D  Sul D

Sounding pitches

Sul C  Sul C

mf  ff
Score in C

Major Arcana XII: The Hanged Man

For Sextet

Andante \( j = 72 \)

C Flute

Oboe

Bb Clarinet

Violin

Viola

Cello

Sujet

troes sujet

Voix libre

Sujet

troes sujet
Major Arcana XIII: The Nameless Arcanum

for Duo

Lento \( \frac{j}{\phantom{0}} = 40 \)

Violin

\[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{segment A} \\
\text{Segment B} \\
\text{segment C} \\
\text{segment D} \\
\text{segment E} \\
\text{B x A Non Transposed}
\end{array} \]

Cello

\[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{segment A} \\
\text{Segment B} \\
\text{segment C} \\
\text{segment D} \\
\text{B x A Transposed}
\end{array} \]
Major Arcana XIV: Temperance
Solo for Oboe

Andante $\frac{4}{4} = 90$

Adagio $\frac{4}{4} = 60$
La pas-sión de go-zar de mi cuer-po,

El pla- cer es mi tem-plo.

To-do lo que a-traigo, lo de-vo-ro en segui-da!
Major Arcana XVI: The Tower
Solo for Percussion

Andante \( \frac{\dot{\ddot{\dddot{\cdot}}}}{} = 40-60 \)

Crotales

\begin{align*}
&\quad 1 \\
&\quad \quad \text{1 Hard Mallet}
\end{align*}

Vibraphone

\begin{align*}
&\quad \text{High Motor} \\
&\quad \quad \text{2 Cord Mallets}
\end{align*}

Susp. Cymb.

\begin{align*}
&\quad \text{1 Cord Mallet}
\end{align*}

Bongos

\begin{align*}
&\quad \text{With left foot}
\end{align*}

Bass Drum

\begin{align*}
&\quad \text{p} \\
&\quad \quad \text{mf}
\end{align*}

Crot.

\begin{align*}
&\quad 5 \\
&\quad \quad \text{p} \\
&\quad \quad \text{mf}
\end{align*}

Vib.

\begin{align*}
&\quad \quad \text{sp} \quad \text{mf} \\
&\quad \quad \text{sp} \quad \text{mf} \quad \text{sp} \quad \text{mf}
\end{align*}

S.Cymb.

\begin{align*}
&\quad \quad \text{mf}
\end{align*}

B. Dr

\begin{align*}
&\quad \quad \text{p}
\end{align*}
Major Arcana XVII : The Star
Solo for Soprano

Andante $J = 60$

Imitate the sound of the wind

Imitate a source of water

* Refers to a rhythm alteration of one hand on and off mouth while singing.

Play on Glockenspiel with 1 Hard Mallet

$mf$ $f$ $sp$ $mf$
Sopr.

mf

p

3 sec.

p

f

Soy tu Estrel

Glock.

mf

p

subito

whisper

Sopr.

la, El Tem-plo, de los Ar-tes, [f]-Fuen-te [s] sa-gra-dad,

mf

p

sf

Sopr.

El Don, que cu-ra la-hu-ma-ni-dad,

Alterate the sound of the voice by knocking with the palm of the hand on the solar plexus

Sopr.

Si-gue me, si, si, si-gue-me, si-gue-me,

Play on Susp. Cymb. with 1 Wire Brush

Sus. Cymb.

Glock.

p

1 Play on Glockenspiel with 1 Hard Mallet

Sopr.

Si-gue me,

Sus. Cymb.

Glock.

mf

p

Si-gue me,
Score in C

Major Arcana XVIII: The Moon

For Quartet

Adagio $\dot{=} 60$

Violin

Oboe

Bb Clarinet

Cello

Vln.

Ob.

Cl.

Vlc.
Major Arcana XIX: The Sun

Solo for Cello

Adagio \( \frac{\text{b} \text{b} \text{b}} \) = 60

Molto sul pont. \rightarrow Ord.

Seagull Effect

Sul C

pizz.

Molto sul tasto \rightarrow Ord.

Molto sul tasto \rightarrow Molto sul pont. \rightarrow Molto sul tasto \rightarrow Ord. \rightarrow Molto sul pont.

arco

Molto sul pont.

Seagull Effect

Molto sul pont. \rightarrow Molto sul tasto \rightarrow Molto sul pont. \rightarrow Ord.

Molto sul tasto

arco

molto accel.

molto rall.

Ord.

Seagull Effect

Molto sul pont.

Molto sul pont.

pp< ff

pp< ff

pp< ff

pp< ff

Ord.

Seagull Effect

Molto sul pont.

Molto sul pont.

pizz.

Molto sul pont.

Molto sul pont.

Molto sul pont.
Molto sul pont.

21

mf → p

mf → f

sp → mf

24

mf → fff

26

fff → mf

28

Non vibrato → Molto vibrato

Seagull Effect

pizz.
Major Arcana XX : Judgment

For Duo

Lento $= 40$

Violin

Vibraphone

High Motor
4 hard mallets

\[\text{Violin}\]

\[\text{Vibraphone}\]

\[\text{Vln.}\]

\[\text{Vib.}\]

\[\text{p}\]

\[\text{mf}\]

\[\text{f}\]

\[\text{f} \rightarrow \text{p}\]

\[\text{p}\]

\[\text{f}\]

\[\text{ff}\]

\[\text{f}\]

\[\text{mf}\]

\[\text{f}\]

\[\text{ff}\]

\[\text{f}\]

\[\text{mf}\]

\[\text{f}\]

\[\text{mf}\]

\[\text{p}\]
Major Arcana XXI: The World
Solo for Piano

Allegro $\mathcal{J} = 80$

\begin{music}
\begin{musicnotes}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicnotes}
\end{music}

mf crescendo

\begin{music}
\begin{musicnotes}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicnotes}
\end{music}

8th-

\begin{music}
\begin{musicnotes}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicnotes}
\end{music}

ff diminuendo

\begin{music}
\begin{musicnotes}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\begin{musicstaff}
\begin{musicbreve}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicbreve}
\end{musicstaff}
\end{musicnotes}
\end{music}

PPP

mf

* No sound pitches, the only sounds should be fingernails on keys
*H (play glissando only on the black notes of the keyboard)

*M (play glissando only on the white notes of the keyboard)

*L (play glissando only on the side of the keyboard)

Play inside the piano, directly with fingertip on the piano strings

Pedal Kick

I: damp string inside piano to create harmonics on the G clef

Play normally
Like at the end of measure 4

Like measure 10

Play inside the piano, directly with fingertip on the piano strings
Play inside the piano, directly with fingertip on the piano strings.
Performance notes for the Singer

Repeat the motive of the box (two notes with glissando) until the end of the arrow.

Major Arcana XXII : The Fool - For Quintet

Metric system
-The first miniature uses a metric system with cues (see Figure 1 below).
-The big number above the measure represents the number of cues per measure (for example, the big number 5 in Figure 1 below means that there are five cues in this measure).
-The small numbers represent the cues.
-The duration between the cues is written in seconds.
-This metric system explains always which instrument leads the others instruments for the cues (for example, as written in Figure 1 below, we can see that the Bass Flute leads the others instruments).

Figure 1:

Performance notes for all the Musicians

1/4 sharp, 3/4 sharp
1/4 flat, 3/4 flat

Performance notes for the Percussion Player

-Instruments
Gong : use a Chinese Gong
Suspended Cymbal : use a regular size (ca. 18 inches)

-Mallets
2 Wire Brushes : use it only to play the Suspended Cymbal and the Snare Drum.
2 Hands (without any mallets) : use it only to play the Bongos.
1 Soft Mallet : use it only to play the Chinese Gong.
4 Soft Mallets : use it only to play the Vibraphone and the Crotales.
2 Bows : use it for the Vibraphone and the Crotales only when its written "2 bows" on the score.

Performance notes for the Singer

Repeat the motive of the box (two notes with glissando) until the end of the arrow.
Performance notes for the Bass Flute Player

Wind tone

Between wind tone and normal note

Performance notes for the Bb Clarinet Player

Multiphonic
Score in C

Major Arcana XXII: The Fool
For Quintet

not measured on cue

Soprano

Bass Flute

Bb Clarinet

Violin

Susp. Cymbal

flute leads

flute leads

flute leads

Suspended Cymbal

2 wire brushes

Snare Drum

Sus. Cymbal

4

6"

3"

pp poco a poco

mf molto vib. lennon vib.

ff

mf sempre

p

sub.

pp

ff

p

mf

pp

f

p

m

mf

f

mf

f

pizz.

arco

Snare Drum

71
\[ \text{Sopr.} \]
\[ \text{B. Fl.} \]
\[ \text{Bb Cl.} \]
\[ \text{Vln.} \]
\[ \text{Susp. Cymbal} \]

\[ \text{Suspended Cymbal} \]

\[ \text{Perc. leads} \]

\[ \text{Bongos} \]

\[ \text{poco accel.} \]
\[ \text{Suddenly measured} \]

\begin{align*}
\text{Sopr.} & \quad \text{violin leads} \\
\text{Picc.} & \quad \text{violin leads} \\
\text{Bb Cl.} & \quad \text{violin leads} \\
\text{Vln.} & \quad \text{Molto sul ponticello} \\
\text{Susp. Cymb.} & \quad \text{violin leads}
\end{align*}

\[ \text{Un... cambio de cons-cien-cia...} \]

\[ \text{play gesture as fast as possible and repeat it until the end of the arrow} \]

\[ \text{Molto sul tasto} \]

\[ \text{Sul D} \]

\[ \text{Sul G} \]

\[ \text{Sul G} \]

\[ \text{Ord.} \]

\[ \text{Suspended Cymbal} \]

\[ \text{2 wire brushes} \]

\[ \text{con molto vib.} \]
Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca is a composer and pianist from Switzerland. He obtained his Bachelor’s degree in piano performance from The University of Montreal, Canada. He entered The University of New Orleans music graduate program to pursue a Master’s degree in composition in 2015 under Dr. Yotum Haber.