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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
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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.

Lyrics by Pierre Emmanuel Mariaca:

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

El Papa
Soy El Papa,
Vivo en el éxtasis del otro,
Ese otro que no es otro que yo.

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 Amante
Soy El Enamorado,
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:

**The Devil**
The Devil,  
I am,  
The fire  
Which burns in you,  
The passion of enjoying my body,  
The pleasure is my temple,  
All that I attract  
I devour it immediately!

**El Diablo**
Diablo,  
Soy,  
El fuego  
Que arde en ti,  
La passion de gozar de mi cuerpo,  
El placer es mi templo,  
Todo lo que atraigo,  
Lo devero en seguida!

**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:

**The Star**
Follow me,  
I’m your Star,  
The Temple,  
Of The Arts,  
Sacred Spring,  
The Gift,  
That heals,  
The Humanity,  
Follow me,

**La Estrella**
Sigueme,  
Soy tu Estrella,  
El Templo,  
De los Artes,  
Fuente sagrada,  
El Don,  
Que cura,  
La Humanidad,  
Sigueme.
**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  \( \frac{\text{d}^-}{40} \)

Andante  \( \frac{\text{d}^-}{60} \)
Tempo di Valse

From blow to real pitch

Non vibrato

Molto vibrato

Non vibrato

2''
Cadenza - free tempo
accel.

go to high vibrato

mf

p

p

ff

go back to normal vibrato

rall.

Lento \( \dot{\tempo} = 40 \)

Tempo di Valse

ff

Non vibrato \( \rightarrow \) Molto vibrato \( \rightarrow \) Non vibrato \( \rightarrow \) From real pitch to blow

mf
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
Major Arcana III : The Empress

For Quintet

\[ j = 80 \]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{C Flute} \\
\text{Oboe} \\
\text{Violin} \\
\text{Viola} \\
\text{Susp. Cymb. (small)}
\end{array}
\]

1 medium yarn mallet

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Fl.} \\
\text{Ob.} \\
\text{Vln.} \\
\text{Vla.} \\
\text{S. C.}
\end{array}
\]

To Vib.
Fl.
Ob.
Vln.
Vla.
5 T. T.

ff
mf
f

fff
mf
f

17

molto sul tasto
Ordinario

fff
mf
f

To Vib.

19

ff
mf
p

fp
mf
p

f
ff
mf
p

5 T. T.
Score in C

Major Arcana IV : The Emperor

For Quintet

Andante $\frac{3}{4} = 80$

With authority

Soy_ El Em-pe-ra-dor,

el pa-dre.

Adagio $\frac{3}{4} = 60$

mf $\rightarrow$ p

Andante $\frac{3}{4} = 80$

La_e-sta bi-li-dad sen-ta-da.

Gong

1 soft mallet

High motor

4 soft mallets

Soprano

C Fl.

Bb Clarinet

Violin

Vibraphone

Gong

1 soft mallet

4 soft mallets

Gong

Vibraphone

Gong
Major Arcana V: The Pope

for String Quartet

Lento $\frac{3}{4} = 60$

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

pizz. arco

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

13

3

3

3

3

18
Major Arcana VI: The Lover

for Quintet

Andante $j = 80$

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

With wonder

Soprano

Flûte

Bb Clarinet

Violin

Vibraphone

High motor

2 bows

Andante $j = 70$

Tenderly

Sopr.

Fl.  

Bb Cl.

Vln.

Crot.

2 bows
repeat this pattern by accelerating until the end of the measure

†con ped.
Andante  $\textit{j} = 80$

Sopr.

Fl.

Bb Cl.

Vln.

Vib.

Vi

mf

14

E

se

tro

que

no

es

tro

que

16

Vi

vo en el ex - ta - sis

del o - tro,

mf

16
repeat this pattern by accelerating until the end of the next measure
Major Arcana VIII : Justice
Solo for C Flute

Allegro, alla tango \( \text{\textit{q}} = 100 \)
Score in C

Major Arcana IX : The Hermit

for Quartet

Lento $\frac{\text{L}}{\text{q}} = 40$

C Flute

Bb Clarinet

Viola

Cello

flz.

flz.

flz.

Fl.

Cl.

Vla.

Vlc.

f

$\text{mf}$

sp

f

$\text{mf}$

sp

flz.

f

$\text{mf}$

sp

f

$\text{mf}$

sp

f

$\text{mf}$

sp

f

$\text{mf}$

sp

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Major Arcana X: The Wheel of Fortune

For 11 musicians

Allegro \( \frac{\text{ allegro }}{\text{ allegro }} = 110 \)

C Flute

Oboe

Bb Clarinet

Claves

Marimba

Piano

Soprano

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello
Major Arcana XI: Strength
Solo for Viola

Adagio \( \frac{\text{b}}{\text{f}} \) = 30

1

[Music notation]

3

[Music notation]

5

[Music notation]

7

[Music notation]

9

[Music notation]
5

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

\textit{divertissement} 3 voix

\textit{Sujet}  

\textit{voix libres}  

\textit{contre sujet}  

\textit{Sujet}  

\textit{voix libre}  

\textit{voix libre}  

\textit{voix libre}  

\textit{Sujet}  

\textit{voix libre}  

\textit{voix libre}  

\textit{Sujet}  

\textit{voix libre}
Major Arcana XIII: The Nameless Arcanum

for Duo

Lento $\frac{\dot{\jmath}}{} = 40$

1

Violation

Segment A

Segment B

Segment C

Segment D

Segment E

B x A Non Transposed

B x A Transposed

B x B Non Transposed

B x B Transposed

B x B Transposed Retrograde

B x C Non Transposed

B x C Transposed

B x D Non Transposed

B x D Transposed

B x E Non Transposed

B x E Transposed

B x E Transposed Retrograde

B x F Non Transposed Modified

B x F Transposed

B x F Transposed Retrograde

B x G Non Transposed Modified

B x G Transposed

B x G Transposed Retrograde

B x H Non Transposed Modified

B x H Transposed

B x H Transposed Retrograde

B x I Non Transposed Modified

B x I Transposed

B x I Transposed Retrograde

B x J Non Transposed Modified

B x J Transposed

B x J Transposed Retrograde

B x K Non Transposed Modified

B x K Transposed

B x K Transposed Retrograde

B x L Non Transposed Modified

B x L Transposed

B x L Transposed Retrograde

B x M Non Transposed Modified

B x M Transposed

B x M Transposed Retrograde

B x N Non Transposed Modified

B x N Transposed

B x N Transposed Retrograde

B x O Non Transposed Modified

B x O Transposed

B x O Transposed Retrograde

B x P Non Transposed Modified

B x P Transposed

B x P Transposed Retrograde

B x Q Non Transposed Modified

B x Q Transposed

B x Q Transposed Retrograde

B x R Non Transposed Modified

B x R Transposed

B x R Transposed Retrograde

B x S Non Transposed Modified

B x S Transposed

B x S Transposed Retrograde

B x T Non Transposed Modified

B x T Transposed

B x T Transposed Retrograde

B x U Non Transposed Modified

B x U Transposed

B x U Transposed Retrograde

B x V Non Transposed Modified

B x V Transposed

B x V Transposed Retrograde

B x W Non Transposed Modified

B x W Transposed

B x W Transposed Retrograde

B x X Non Transposed Modified

B x X Transposed

B x X Transposed Retrograde

B x Y Non Transposed Modified

B x Y Transposed

B x Y Transposed Retrograde

B x Z Non Transposed Modified

B x Z Transposed

B x Z Transposed Retrograde

B x a Non Transposed Modified

B x a Transposed

B x a Transposed Retrograde

B x b Non Transposed Modified

B x b Transposed

B x b Transposed Retrograde

B x c Non Transposed Modified

B x c Transposed

B x c Transposed Retrograde

B x d Non Transposed Modified

B x d Transposed

B x d Transposed Retrograde

B x e Non Transposed Modified

B x e Transposed

B x e Transposed Retrograde

B x f Non Transposed Modified

B x f Transposed

B x f Transposed Retrograde

B x g Non Transposed Modified

B x g Transposed

B x g Transposed Retrograde

B x h Non Transposed Modified

B x h Transposed

B x h Transposed Retrograde

B x i Non Transposed Modified

B x i Transposed

B x i Transposed Retrograde

B x j Non Transposed Modified

B x j Transposed

B x j Transposed Retrograde

B x k Non Transposed Modified

B x k Transposed

B x k Transposed Retrograde

B x l Non Transposed Modified

B x l Transposed

B x l Transposed Retrograde

B x m Non Transposed Modified

B x m Transposed

B x m Transposed Retrograde

B x n Non Transposed Modified

B x n Transposed

B x n Transposed Retrograde

B x o Non Transposed Modified

B x o Transposed

B x o Transposed Retrograde

B x p Non Transposed Modified

B x p Transposed

B x p Transposed Retrograde

B x q Non Transposed Modified

B x q Transposed

B x q Transposed Retrograde

B x r Non Transposed Modified

B x r Transposed

B x r Transposed Retrograde

B x s Non Transposed Modified

B x s Transposed

B x s Transposed Retrograde

B x t Non Transposed Modified

B x t Transposed

B x t Transposed Retrograde

B x u Non Transposed Modified

B x u Transposed

B x u Transposed Retrograde

B x v Non Transposed Modified

B x v Transposed

B x v Transposed Retrograde

B x w Non Transposed Modified

B x w Transposed

B x w Transposed Retrograde

B x x Non Transposed Modified

B x x Transposed

B x x Transposed Retrograde

B x y Non Transposed Modified

B x y Transposed

B x y Transposed Retrograde

B x z Non Transposed Modified

B x z Transposed

B x z Transposed Retrograde

$\sum$
Major Arcana XIV: Temperance
Solo for Oboe

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

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

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

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{mf}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{f} & \quad \text{mf}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{sp} & \quad \text{f}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ff} & \quad \text{f}
\end{align*}
\]
Major Arcana 15 : The Devil

For Duo

Allegro $q = 60$

Soprano

Piano

S.   P.

soy,

soy,

mf

S.   P.

el

fue

que

ar

den

ti
La pas-sión de go-zar de mi cuer-po,
El pla-cer es mi tem-plo.
Todo lo que a-traigo, lo de-vo-ro en se-gui-da!
Major Arcana XVI: The Tower

Solo for Percussion

Andante $\frac{\text{d}}{\text{e}} = 40-60$

1 Hard Mallet

Crotales

Vibraphone

High Motor
2 Cord Mallets

Suspended Cymbals
Bongos
Bass Drum

1 Cord Mallet

With left foot

S. Cymb.
Bongos
B. Dr

Crot.

Vib.

S. Cymb.
Bongos
B. Dr

54
Major Arcana XVII : The Star

Solo for Soprano

Andante \( j = 60 \)

Imitate the sound of the wind

Play on Susp. Cymbal with two Wire Brushes

(Play progressively from slow to fast)

(Play progressively from fast to slow)

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

Imitate a source of water

(Play progressively from slow to fast)

(Play progressively from fast to slow)

Soprano

Susp. Cymbal

Glockenspiel

Soprano

Imitate a source of water

(Play progressively from slow to fast)

(Play progressively from fast to slow)

Soprano

Glockenspiel

Play on Glockenspiel with 1 Hard Mallet

mf

mf

mf

mf

p
Sopr.  

8  \( \text{mf} \rightarrow \text{p} \)  3 sec.  \( \text{p} \rightarrow \text{f} \)  

Soy tu Estrelo - - - 

Glock.  

10  \( \text{p} \rightarrow \text{f} \)  \( \text{mf} \rightarrow \text{p} \)  \( \text{p} \rightarrow \text{f} \)  \( \text{sf} \)  \( \text{p} \)  subito  

whisper 

Sopr.  

14  \( \text{sf} \rightarrow \text{p} \)  \( \text{mf} \rightarrow \text{p} \)  \( \text{mf} \rightarrow \text{f} \)  

El Don, que cura la humandad,  

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

Sopr.  

17  \( \text{p} \rightarrow \text{f} \)  \( \text{p} \rightarrow \text{p} \)  

Si gueme, si, si, si, si - gueme, si - gueme,  

Suspe Cymb.  \( \text{mf} \)  

Play on Susp. Cymb. with 1 Wire Brush 

Glock.  

Play on Glockenspiel with 1 Hard Mallet 

Sopr.  

19  \( \text{mf} \rightarrow \text{p} \)  

Si - gueme,  

Si - gueme,  

Suspe Cymb.  

Glock.  

57
Score in C

Major Arcana XVIII: The Moon
For Quartet

Adagio $\cdot = 60$

Violin

Oboe

Bb Clarinet

Cello

Vln.

Ob.

Cl.

Vlc.

mf  $\rightarrow$  f  $\rightarrow$  mf

mf  $\rightarrow$  f  $\rightarrow$  mf

mf  $\rightarrow$  f  $\rightarrow$  mf

mf  $\rightarrow$  f  $\rightarrow$  mf

mf  $\rightarrow$  f  $\rightarrow$  mf
Major Arcana XIX: The Sun
Solo for Cello

Adagio $\frac{1}{4} \cdot 60$

Seagull Effect

Molto sul pont. $\rightarrow$ Ord. $\rightarrow$

5

Molto sul tasto $\rightarrow$ Ord.

pizz.

+ + + + +

arco

ff

molto accel.

molto rall.

9

pizz.

f $\rightarrow$ ff

12

Seagull Effect

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

18

arco

Ord.
Major Arcana XX: Judgment
For Duo

Lento $j = 40$

Violin

Vibraphone

High Motor
4 hard mallets

Vln.  Vib.

Vln.  Vib.

Vln.  Vib.

Vln.  Vib.

Vln.  Vib.
Major Arcana XXI : The World
Solo for Piano

Allegro $J = 80$

*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)

5

p mf sp f p mf sp mf

7

Pedal Kick

sf f

Ped.

9

Play normally

mf

11

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

sp

Ped. 15th
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.

mf crescendo

fff
**Performance notes for the Singer**

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

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**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 :**

![Figure 1](image)

**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
\( \frac{3}{4} \)  

\( \frac{4}{4} \)

\( \frac{5}{4} \)
Suddenly measured

\[ j = 80 \]

1. Play gesture as fast as possible and repeat it until the end of the arrow.

2. Molto sul ponticello

3. Molto sul tasto

\[ j = 60 \]

4. 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. Yotam Haber.