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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
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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:

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.
Major Arcana I: The Magician
Solo for Bb Clarinet

Lento $\doteq 40$

Andante $\doteq 60$
Tempo di Valse

From blow to real pitch
Non vibrato
Molto vibrato
Non vibrato

Score in C
Cadenza - free tempo
accel.

go to high vibrato

go back to normal vibrato

Lento $\mathbf{\frac{\mathbf{40}}{\phantom{0}}}$

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

\[ Andante \, \text{\texttextsize{\textbar}} \, q = 60 \]

Flute

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{p} \\
\text{mf} \\
\text{mf}
\end{array}
\]

Violin

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{p} \\
\text{mf} \\
\text{mf}
\end{array}
\]

Bb Clarinet

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{p} \\
\text{High motor} \\
\text{With 2 soft mallets}
\end{array}
\]

Vibraphone

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{p} \\
\text{mf} \\
\text{mf}
\end{array}
\]

Flute

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{flz.} \\
\text{flz.}
\end{array}
\]

Violin

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{p} \\
\text{p}
\end{array}
\]

Bb Clarinet

\[
\begin{array}{c}
p
\end{array}
\]

Vibraphone

\[
\begin{array}{c}
p
\end{array}
\]
Fl.

Ob.

Vln.

Vla.

Vib.

Vibraphone
High Motor
2 medium mallets

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

Major Arcana IV : The Emperor

For Quintet

Andante $\frac{1}{2} = 80$

Adagio $\frac{1}{2} = 60$

1. Soprano

2. Flute

3. Bb Clarinet

4. Violin

Soprano

With authority

Soy_ El Em-pe-ra-dor,
el pa-dre.

Flute

Bb Clarinet

Violin

Gong

Vibrphone

High motor

4 soft mallets

Andante $\frac{1}{2} = 80$

Sopr.

C Fl.

Bb Cl.

Vln.

Vib.
Score in C

Major Arcana VI: The Lover
for Quintet

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

With wonder

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

Andante  \( \frac{j}{j} = 70 \)

Tenderly

Soprano
Flûte
Bb Clarinet
Violin
Vibraphone

Vibraphone

High motor
2 bows

2 bows
Andante  \( \frac{j}{4} = 80 \)

14

Sopr.

16

Sopr.

Vi

vo
en
el
éx
	as-
sis
del
ot-
ro,

Fl.

Bb Cl.

Vln.

Vib.

E

se
ot-
ro
que
no
es
ot-
ro
que
repeat this pattern by accelerating until the end of the next measure
Major Arcana VII : The Chariot
Solo for Violin

Andante \( \dot{J} = 90 \)

1

\[ \text{Sul A} \]

\[ \text{Sul D} \]

\[ p \]

\[ sf \]

\[ \text{Sul E} \]

\[ \text{molto rall.} \]

3

\[ \text{arco ord. s.p. ord.} \]

\[ pizz. \]

\[ \text{arco} \]

\[ mf \]

\[ p \]

\[ f \]

\[ mf \]

\[ ff \]

Lento \( J = 60 \)

5

\[ \text{Sul D} \]

\[ \text{Sul G} \]

\[ sp \]

\[ \text{Sul A} \]

\[ sf \]

\[ sp \]

Andante \( \dot{J} = 90 \)

9

\[ \text{Sul D} \]

\[ sf \]

\[ mf \]

23
Major Arcana VIII : Justice
Solo for C Flute

Allegro, alla tango \( \dot{J} = 100 \)

1

4

7

10

13

\]
Major Arcana X: The Wheel of Fortune

For 11 musicians

Allegro $\frac{\text{j}}{\text{= 110}}$

C Flute

Oboe

Bb Clarinet

Claves

Marimba

Piano

Soprano

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello
Major Arcana XII: The Hanged Man
For Sextet

Andante \( \frac{J}{4} = 72 \)

Score in C

Sujet

contre-sujet

Voix libre

Sujet
Major Arcana XIII: The Nameless Arcanum

for Duo

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment A</th>
<th>Segment C</th>
<th>Segment E</th>
<th>B x A Non Transposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Violin</td>
<td>Cello</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment B</th>
<th>Segment D</th>
<th>B x A Transposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B x B Transposed</th>
<th>B x C Non Transposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vln.</td>
<td>Cello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B x B Non Transposed</th>
<th>B x C Transposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vln.</td>
<td>Cello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B x D Transposed</th>
<th>B x E Non Transposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vln.</td>
<td>Cello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B x D Non Transposed</th>
<th>B x E Transposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vln.</td>
<td>Cello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B x A Transposed Retrograde</th>
<th>B x B Transposed Retrograde</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vln.</td>
<td>Cello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B x B Non Transposed Modified</th>
<th>B x C Non Transposed Modified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vln.</td>
<td>Cello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Major Arcana XIV : Temperance

Solo for Oboe

Andante $\frac{\text{d}}{\text{m}} = 90$

Adagio $\frac{\text{d}}{\text{m}} = 60$
Major Arcana 15 : The Devil

For Duo

Allegro $j = 60$

Soprano

Piano

Diálogo, Diálogo,

soy, soy,

el fuego que arde en ti
La pasión de gozar de mi cuerpo,

El placer es mi templo.

Todo lo que atraigo, lo devo en seguida!
Major Arcana XVI : The Tower

Solo for Percussion

Andante $\frac{1}{4} = 40-60$

1 Hard Mallet

Crotales

Vibrphone

1 Cord Mallet

Susp. Cymb.

Bongos

Bass Drum

With left foot

5

Crot.

Vib.

S. Cymb.

B. Dr

mf

$p$

$p$

$l.v.$
Major Arcana XVII: The Star
 Solo for Soprano

Andante $q = 60$

Imitate the sound of the wind

**Play on Susp. Cymbal with two Wire Brushes**

(Play progressively from slow to fast)

Damp the sound

(Play progressively from fast to slow)

Imitate a source of water

(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)

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

Imitate the sound of the wind

**Play on Susp. Cymbal with two Wire Brushes**

(Play progressively from slow to fast)

Damp the sound

(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)

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

Imitate the sound of the wind

**Play on Susp. Cymbal with two Wire Brushes**

(Play progressively from slow to fast)

Damp the sound

(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)

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

Imitate the sound of the wind

**Play on Susp. Cymbal with two Wire Brushes**

(Play progressively from slow to fast)

Damp the sound

(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)

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

\[ \text{mf} \rightarrow p \quad \text{3 sec.} \quad \text{p} \rightarrow f \]

\[ \text{Soy tu Estrella,} \]

\[ \text{mf} \rightarrow f \quad \text{mf} \rightarrow p \quad \text{p} \rightarrow f \rightarrow p \quad \text{sf} \quad \text{p subito} \quad \text{whisper} \]

\[ \text{El Templo, de los Artes, [f] Fuen [s]agra [d]a,} \]

\[ \text{sf} \rightarrow p \quad \text{mf} \rightarrow f \]

\[ \text{Alterate the sound of the voice by knocking with the palm of the hand on the solar plexus} \]

\[ \text{El Don, que cura la humedad,} \]

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

\[ \text{Sigue me, si, si, si, sigue me, sigue me,} \]

\[ \text{Play on Susp. Cymb. with 1 Wire Brush} \]

\[ \text{Play on Glockenspiel with 1 Hard Mallet} \]

\[ \text{Si - gue me,} \quad \text{Si - gue me,} \]
Score in C

Major Arcana XVIII : The Moon

For Quartet

Adagio $\frac{}{} = 60$

Violin

Oboe

Bb Clarinet

Cello
Major Arcana XIX : The Sun

Solo for Cello

Adagio $\frac{\text{bemol}}{4} = 60$

Seagull Effect

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

Sul C $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$
pizz. $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$

Molto sul tasto $\rightarrow$ Ord.

arco $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$

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

molto accel. $\rightarrow$ molto rall.

Seagull Effect

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

pizz. $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$

arco $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$

mf $\rightarrow$ $f \rightarrow p$

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

$\text{ff} \rightarrow \text{pp} < \text{ff} \rightarrow \text{pp} < \text{ff} \rightarrow \text{pp} < \text{ff} \rightarrow$ $\text{pp} < \text{ff}$

Seagull Effect

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

Ord.

mf $\rightarrow$ $f \rightarrow 61$

arco $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$
pizz. $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$

arco $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$ $+$

Ord. $\rightarrow$
Major Arcana XX : Judgment

For Duo

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

Violin

\[ \text{Vln.} \]

\[ \text{High Motor} \]

4 hard mallets

\[ \text{Vib.} \]

Vibraphone

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

Allegro \( \text{\textit{j}} = 80 \)

\( f \)

mf crescendo

8\textsuperscript{w}--

\( \text{ff} \) diminuendo

*No sound pitches, the only sounds should be fingernails on keys

ppp

mf
(play glissando only on the black notes of the keyboard)

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

(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

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

ff

Play inside the piano, directly with fingertip on the piano strings
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: Major Arcana XXII: The Fool](image)

**Performance notes for all the Musicians**

![Image 2](image)

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 it's 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
**Major Arcana XXII : The Fool**

*For Quintet*

---

**Soprano**

- Flute leads
- **flute leads**
- Repeat this pattern by accelerating until the next cue

**Bass Flute**

- Flute leads
- **flute leads**
- Repeat this note by accelerating until the next cue

**Bb Clarinet**

- **flute leads**
- Repeat this pattern by accelerating until the end of the arrow

**Violin**

- Suspended Cymbal

**Suspended Cymbal**

- 2 wire brushes
- Repeat this pattern by accelerating until the next cue

---

**Soprano**

- Sing the note with diamond

---

**Bb Cl.**

- **pizz.**
- Repeat this pattern by accelerating until the next cue

---

**Vln.**

- Snare Drum

---

**Susp. Cymbal**

- **Snare Drum**
- Repeat this pattern by accelerating until the next cue
Suddenly measured

Back to non measured on cue

Sopr.

B. Fl.

Bb Cl.

Vln.

Susp. Cymbal

Violin leads

Loc - - - co - - -

Soy.

Violin leads

lead

Violin leads

Suspended Cymbal

4

Perc. leads

Perc. leads

Perc. leads

Perc. leads

2 hands

lead

Bongos

poco accel.

22

72
Suddenly measured

\[ \begin{aligned}
&j = 80 \\
&\text{Un} \quad \text{cam-} \quad \text{bio} \quad \text{de} \quad \text{cons-cien-} \quad \text{cia,}
\end{aligned} \]

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

\[ \begin{aligned}
&\text{violin leads} \\
&\text{violin leads} \\
&\text{violin leads}
\end{aligned} \]

\[ \begin{aligned}
&\text{Molto sul ponticello} \\
&\text{lead} \\
&\text{Molto sul tasto}
\end{aligned} \]

\[ \begin{aligned}
&\text{violin leads} \\
&\text{violin leads}
\end{aligned} \]

\[ \begin{aligned}
&\text{f} \\
&\text{con molto vib.}
\end{aligned} \]

\[ \begin{aligned}
&\text{Suspended Cymbal} \\
&\text{2 wire brushes}
\end{aligned} \]
Vita

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.