

“3 Petite Solemnities & Levities,” for Solo Piano

Collin G. Heade

~~~Reminiscences~~~

All 3 solemnity excerpts were taken from my 1977 compositions notebook while studying music at Portland State University, toward my BA in music. My remarkable composition teacher, Tomas Svoboda, whom I think of daily, is a marvelous role model and true genius of this century. He even walked musically, always inventing, unceasingly positive, and never tiring of questions, even when he was elbow deep in manuscript.

I remember that part of my life very well. Invariably striving to catch up on the huge avalanche of information coming my way; as I was starting from scratch. I had zero theory education, including the reading of music, or even the drawing of one note on a staff. I keenly remember another very well known teacher & musician, Norman Leyden, spending much time during one class describing how to draw notes correctly, while teaching from the chalk board. I reminded him of this memory much later in life when the Oregon Chamber Players were showcasing one of his pieces. He smiled as if proud I would remember such a thing. I only bring this up as my old notebooks toward this project were full of hand written scribbles. Yet in a day without personal computers, there were times when best penmanship was essential toward legibility, keeping a favorite ruler for stems handy.

In working on this project, I had renewed fond memories of seeking that lone piano in an empty practice room in the isle at PSU, seeking a few minutes to work on these extremely early creations, which meant a lot to me. All levities in this piece were added, present day, for this project.

I would like to thank pianist Marlise Strobe for looking at a few of these movements before setting to final ink.

Cordially, Collin Heade

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<i>Solemnity No. 3</i>	<i>‘Wonderment’</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>4:25’</i>
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Solemnity No. 1 - 'Preparations'

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Adagio (♩ = 69)

mf *f* *mf*

Ped. ----- \wedge 1/2 Ped. ----- \wedge ----- \wedge 1/4 Ped. ----- \wedge Ped. ----- \rightarrow

mp *p* *mp*

mp *mp*

1/2 Ped. ----- \rightarrow 1/4 Ped. ----- \wedge

mf *f* *mf* *mp*