
Eighth Note Publications

Funeral March of a Marionette

Charles Gounod

Arranged by David Marlatt

Charles Gounod intended to compose a multi-movement work for solo piano called Suite Burlesque, and one of its movements was to be Funeral March of a Marionette. This was the only movement completed. He later orchestrated it and it has become his most popular concert work.

It has been suggested that Gounod wrote this piece as a portrait of Henry Chorley, a music critic from London. Chorley had “a thin, sour, high-pitched, soprano-ish voice” and moved like “a stuffed red-haired monkey.” He played this work for a friend who added the program to go with the music. It has long been known as the theme song for Alfred Hitchcock’s television shows.

The story is as follows:

The marionette died in a duel; the music describes the funeral procession; the solemnity is relieved with a happy sprightly section in which the mourners stop at an inn for refreshments; the funeral march is resumed and it ends on a somber note.

PREVIEW ONLY

for the Foothills Brass Quintet

FUNERAL MARCH OF A MARIONETTE

C. Gounod
(1818-1893)
Arranged by D. Marlatt

Allegro Moderato ♩ = 126 2 *The marionette is broken!* 3 Adagio ♩ = 72 4 *The marionettes whisper sadly.* 5 6

B♭ Trumpet 1 *ff*

B♭ Trumpet 2 *ff*

F Horn *ff*

Trombone *ff*

Tuba *ff*

7 8 9 10 11 12 Allegretto ♩ = 100

p

f

p

p

p

13 14 15 16 17 18

19 *The procession.* 20 21 22 23 24

p

25 26 27 28 29 30

p

31 32 33 34 35 36

f *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

37 38 39 40 41 42

lead

f *p* *f* *f* *f*

not lead

43 44 45 46 47 48

p *p* *p* *f* *f* *f*

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49 50 51 52 53 54

p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

The mourners stop at an inn for refreshments.

lead

55 56 57 58 59 60

not lead lead

p *f* *p* *p* *p* *f*

61 62 63 64 65 66

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67 68 69 70 71 72

lead not lead

f *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

73 74 75 76 77 78

f *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

79 80 81 82 83 84

f *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

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85 86 87 88 89 90

f *p* *f* *p* *mp* *mp*

lead not lead lead

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91 92 93 94 95 96

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *mf* *pp* *pp*

97 98 99 100 101 102

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103 104 105 106 107 108

The group returns home.

p *p* *p* *p*

109 110 111 112 113 114

115 116 117 118 119 120

121 not lead 122 123 124 125 126

127 128 129 130 131 132

133 134 135 136 137 138 139

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

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