

DEBUSSY

NOËL DES ENFANTS QUI N'ONT PLUS DE MAISONS

Solo Piano

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Prefacio

Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maisons (Villancico para los niños que ya no tienen hogar) es una obra para voz y piano. Fue compuesta por Claude Debussy (1862-1918) en diciembre de 1915, quien escribió la letra y la música. La partitura fue publicada el año siguiente en París por Durand.

Escrita en plena Primera Guerra Mundial, concretamente durante la Ocupación de Francia por Alemania, esta pieza patriótica es la última canción del compositor.

En este arreglo, la parte vocal se integra en el piano solo. La idea de transcribir una canción como una obra para piano solo no es nueva en la tradición occidental. Sin embargo, en el extenso catálogo vocal de Debussy no existen arreglos de este tipo. Eso sí, es frecuente encontrar adaptaciones en las que la voz es sustituida por instrumentos, como la flauta, el oboe, o el violonchelo.

Por otra parte, el propio Debussy orquestó la parte pianística de algunas de sus canciones, tal y como se observa en las *Trois Ballades de François Villon* o en la canción *Le jet d'eau* perteneciente a los *Cinq Poèmes de Baudelaire*.

Es curiosa la existencia de una adaptación que Debussy realizó para dos sopranos y piano sobre la obra arreglada en la presente edición, *Noël des enfants* qui n'ont plus de maisons.

Esta transcripción se ha realizado, coincidiendo con el centenario de la muerte del compositor, en el ámbito del Departamento de Musicología del Conservatorio Superior de Música de Castilla y León (España).

Soledad Sánchez-Palomo – Salamanca, 2018.

Preface

Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maisons (Christmas Carol for Homeless Children) is a work for voice and piano. It was composed by Claude Debussy (1862-1918) in December 1915, who wrote the lyrics and the music. The score was published the following year in Paris by Durand.

Written during the World War I, specifically during the German occupation of the north-east France, this patriotic piece is the last song of the composer.

In this arrangement, the vocal part is integrated in to the solo piano. The idea of adapting a song to a piece for solo piano is not new in the Western tradition. There are no arrangements of this type in Debussy's extensive vocal catalog. Of course, it is common to find arrangements in which the voice is replaced by instruments, such as the flute, the oboe, or the violoncello.

On the other hand, Debussy himself orchestrated the piano part of some of his songs, as seen in the *Trois Ballades* by *François Villon*, or in the song *Le jet d'eau* belonging to the *Cinq Poèmes de Baudelaire*.

In addition, the existence of an arrangement that Debussy made for two sopranos and piano on the song arranged, *Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maisons*, is so curious.

This transcription has been made coinciding with the centenary of the death of the composer, within the Musicology Department of the Conservatory of Music of Castilla y León (Spain).

Soledad Sánchez-Palomo – Salamanca, 2018.

Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maison

Nous n'avons plus de maisons!
Les ennemis ont tout pris, tout pris, tout pris,
Jusqu'à notre Petit lit!
Ils ont brûlé l'école et notre maître aussi,
Ils ont brûlé l'église et Monsieur Jésus-Christ,
Et le vieux pauvre qui n'a pas pu s'en aller!

Nous n'avons plus de maisons!
Les ennemis ont tout pris, tout pris, tout pris,
Jusqu'à notre Petit lit!
Bien sûr! Papa est à la guerre,
Pauvre maman est morte!
Avant d'avoir vu tout ça.
Qu'est-ce que l'on va faire?
Noël, petit Noël, n'allez pas chez eux
N'allez plus jamais chez eux,
Punissez-les!

Vengez les enfants de France!
Les petits Belges, les petits Serbes,
Et les petits Polonais aussi!
Si nous en oublions, pardonnez-nous.
Noël! Noël! surtout, pas de joujoux,
Tâchez de nous redonner le pain quotidien.
Ils ont brûlé l'école et notre maître aussi,
Ils ont brûlé l'église et Monsieur Jésus-Christ,
Et le vieux pauvre qui n'a pas pu s'en aller!
Noël! Ecoutez-nous, nous n'avons plus de petits sabots!
Mais donnez la victoire aux enfants de France.

Villancico para los niños que ya no tienen hogar

¡Ya no tenemos hogar!
Los enemigos han tomado todo, tomado todo, tomado todo,
¡Incluso nuestra camita!
Han quemado la escuela y también a nuestro maestro,
Han quemado la iglesia y al Señor Jesucristo.
Y al pobre viejo que no pudo irse.

¡Ya no tenemos hogar!
Los enemigos han tomado todo, tomado todo, tomado todo,
¡Incluso nuestra camita!
¡Por supuesto! ¡Papá está en la guerra,
La pobre mamá está muerta!
Antes de haber visto todo esto.
¿Qué se le va a hacer?
Navidad, pequeña Navidad, no vayas a sus casas,
No vayas nunca a sus casas,
¡Castígalos!

¡Véngate por los niños de Francia!
¡Los pequeños belgas, los pequeños serbios,
Y también los pequeños polacos!
Si nos olvidamos de algunos, perdónanos.
¡Navidad! ¡Navidad! sobre todo, nada de juguetes,
Procura darnos el pan nuestro de cada día.

Han quemado la escuela y también a nuestro maestro,
Han quemado la iglesia y al Señor Jesucristo.
Y al pobre viejo que no pudo irse.
¡Navidad! ¡Escúchanos, ya no tenemos zuecos!
Pero da la victoria a los niños de Francia.

Christmas Carol for Homeless Children

Our houses are gone!
The enemy has taken everything, taken everything, taken everything,
Even our little beds!
They burned the school and the schoolmaster.
They burned the church and the Lord Jesus!
And the poor old man who couldn't get away!

Our houses are gone!
The enemy has taken everything, taken everything, taken everything,
Even our little beds!
Of course! Papa has gone to war.
Poor Mama died before she saw all this.
What we are going to do? Christmas!
Little Christmas! Don't go to their houses,
Never go there again.
Punish them!

Avenge the children of France!
The little Belgians, the little Serbs
And the little Poles, too!
If we forgot them, forgive us.
Christmas! Christmas! Especially, no toys,
Try to give us the bread everyday
They burned the school and the schoolmaster.
They burned the church and the Lord Jesus!
And the poor old man who couldn't get away!
Christmas! Listen to us. Our wooden shoes are gone,
But grant victory to the children of France.

Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maisons

Doux et triste

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Piano

p léger et rythmé

mp

pp

p

cresc.

13

mf

Measures 13-15: Treble clef, key of D major. Measure 13: Treble has a melodic line with eighth notes and a half note, while the bass has a simple accompaniment of dotted half notes. Measure 14: Treble continues the melody with eighth notes, and the bass has a more active line with eighth notes. Measure 15: Treble has a half note followed by a quarter note, and the bass has a half note. Dynamics include *mf* and a crescendo hairpin.

16

p

Measures 16-18: Treble clef, key of D major. Measure 16: Treble has a continuous eighth-note melody, and the bass has a simple accompaniment of dotted half notes. Measure 17: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Measure 18: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Dynamics include *p* and a crescendo hairpin.

19

p

Measures 19-21: Treble clef, key of D major. Measure 19: Treble has a continuous eighth-note melody, and the bass has a simple accompaniment of dotted half notes. Measure 20: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Measure 21: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Dynamics include *p* and a crescendo hairpin.

22

mf

Measures 22-24: Treble clef, key of D major. Measure 22: Treble has a continuous eighth-note melody, and the bass has a simple accompaniment of dotted half notes. Measure 23: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Measure 24: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Dynamics include *mf* and a crescendo hairpin.

25

fp

Measures 25-27: Treble clef, key of D major. Measure 25: Treble has a continuous eighth-note melody, and the bass has a simple accompaniment of dotted half notes. Measure 26: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Measure 27: Treble continues the eighth-note melody, and the bass has a half note. Dynamics include *fp* and a crescendo hairpin.

28 *mp* m.g.

31 *p* poco a poco rit.

34 *meno mosso* *a tempo* *mf* m.g.

37 m.g. m.d. *p*

40 *f* *mf*

43 *poco animato*
m.g.

m.g. m.d. 2

46 *sempre animato*
cresc.

m.g. m.d. 2

49

f

51

ff *p*

54 *meno mosso*
doux et expressif

m.g. m.d. 2

57

pp

60

mp

pp

63

mp

p

65

cresc.

68

71 *mf* *rallentando*

74 *pp* *murmurando* *pp*

77 *pp* *pp* *Tempo 1°*

80 *cresc. molto*

82 *f* *ff* *sec.*

This musical score is for a piano piece titled 'Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maisons'. It consists of five systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The first system (measures 71-73) begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and a *rallentando* tempo marking. The second system (measures 74-76) features a piano-piano (*pp*) dynamic and a *murmurando* tempo marking, with dense chordal textures in the right hand. The third system (measures 77-79) continues the *pp* dynamic and *murmurando* tempo, then transitions to *Tempo 1°* (first tempo) in measure 79. The fourth system (measures 80-81) shows a *cresc. molto* (crescendo molto) marking. The fifth system (measures 82-84) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic, increases to fortissimo (*ff*) in measure 83, and includes a *sec.* (second ending) marking. The piece concludes with a final chord in measure 84.