

Erik Desimpelaere

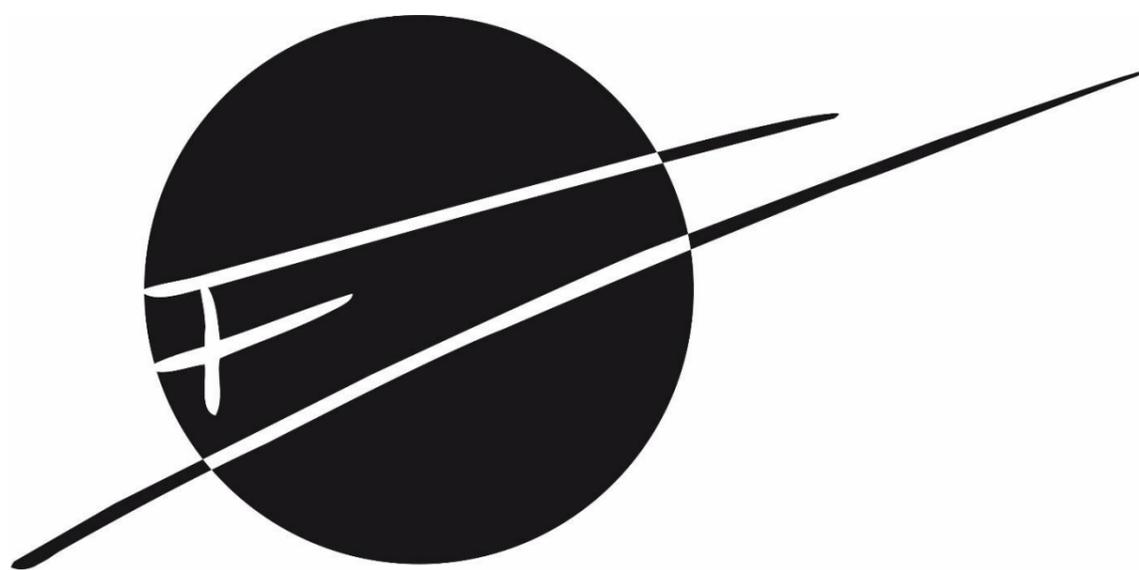
---

# DANSES MACABRES

---

*For orchestra*

(2020)





# DANSES MACABRES

Piccolo  
2 Fluiten (spelen ook Piccolo 2 & 3)  
3 Hobo's  
2 Klarinetten in Bes (spelen ook Klarinet in Es 1 & 2)  
Basklarinet in Bes  
2 Fagotten  
Contrafagot

4 Hoorns in F  
3 Trompetten in C (3. speelt ook Piccolo Trompet in Bes)  
2 Trombones  
Bastrombone  
Tuba

Percussie I (Pauken (5), Buis klokken)  
Percussie II (2 gestemde Bell Plates (F3-D3)<sup>1</sup>, Crotales (2 octaven), SET 1)  
Percussie III (Vibrafoon, SET 2)  
*Voor meer details slagwerk, zie verder\**

Celesta / Glockenspiel à Clavier<sup>2</sup>

14 1<sup>ste</sup> Violen  
12 2<sup>de</sup> Violen  
10 Altviolen  
8 Celli  
6 Contrabassen

Piccolo  
2 Flutes (both doubling Piccolo 2 & 3)  
3 Oboes  
2 Clarinets in B flat (both doubling Clarinet in E flat 1 & 2)  
Bass Clarinet in B flat  
2 Bassoons  
Contrabassofoon

4 Horns in F  
3 Trumpets in C (3. doubling Piccolo Trumpet in B flat)  
2 Trombones  
Bass Trombone  
Tuba

Percussion I (Timpani (5), Tubular Bells)  
Percussion II (2 tuned Bell Plates (F3-D3)<sup>1</sup>, Crotales (2 octaves), SET 1)  
Percussion III (Vibraphone, SET 2)  
*For more percussion details, see below\**

Celesta / Keyboard Glockenspiel<sup>2</sup>

14 1<sup>st</sup> Violins  
12 2<sup>nd</sup> Violins  
10 Violas  
8 Violoncellos  
6 Double basses

[NL] 'Dances Macabres' is geïnspireerd door het schilderij 'De Triomf van de Dood' (1562) van Pieter Bruegel de Oude. De broeierige en morbide atmosfeer van het schilderij vertaalt zich in een intense muzikale schriftuur, waarbij het orkest wordt gebruikt als één groot apocalyptisch apparaat.

Tijdens de Introductie ontwikkelt het thematisch materiaal van de compositie zich vanuit de resonantie van de doods klokken. Daarna volgen vier exuberante Dodendansen, met elk hun kenmerkende ritmische patronen. De dansen worden van elkaar gescheiden door drie Interludes in recitatiefstijl.

[ENG] 'Dances Macabres' is inspired by the painting 'The Triumph of Death' (1562) by Pieter Bruegel the Elder. The sweltering and deadly atmosphere of the painting has been the inspiration for a dense musical texture, in which the orchestra functions as one big apocalyptic apparatus.

During the Introduction, the thematical material for the composition emerges from the resonance of the passing bells. This exposition is followed by four Dances of Death, each with its distinct rhythmical patterns. The dances are interwoven with three orchestral Interludes in recitative-style.

Duurtijd/Duration: +/- 15 min.

*Erik Desimpelaere, December 2020*



<sup>1</sup> Bell Plates or optional real Church Bells.

<sup>2</sup> The Celesta player is doubling Keyboard Glockenspiel (f.e. YAMAHA YAM-CEL56PGLC, range C4-G9, sounding two octaves higher than written). If a Keyboard Glockenspiel is not available, the part can be performed entirely on Celesta (sounding one octave lower than intended).

**\* PERCUSSION REQUIREMENTS**

**SET 1**

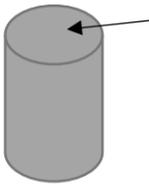
Anvil      Hollow metal tube (damped)      3 Brake Drums (different sizes)      Hi-hat (pedal)      Hi-hat (open)      Hi-hat (closed)      2 suspended cymbals (medium-small)      2 splash cymbals (medium-small)

The anvil, metal tube and brake drums are placed on a table, with a cloth underneath to damp the resonance to a certain limit.

**SET 2**

2 metal (oil) barrels (different sizes)      4 metal (paint/food) tins (different sizes)      4 Cow Bells (different sizes, random pitch)      Thundersheet      Large Tam-tam

The barrels and tins are entirely empty, placed upside down and are always played on the top surface (being the bottom of the barrel/tin):



**Beaters:**

The Crotales are always played with hard mallets. The Tubular Bells with the appropriate hammers.

For Timpani & Vibraphone, the choice of mallets/beaters is up to the player, though in the score the nature of the intended sound is indicated:

-  Soft attack
-  Medium attack
-  Hard attack

For SET 1 & 2 different kinds of beaters/sticks are used:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Brushes          |  Mallets with a metal head |
|  Drum sticks      |  Small hammers             |
|  Soft yarn mallet |  Soft bass drum stick      |
|  Hard yarn mallet |  Hard bass drum stick      |

**Specific ranges:**

Crotales (sounding two octaves higher):

Bell Plates or Church Bells (sounding pitches):

Keyboard Glockenspiel (sounding two octaves higher):



*The Triumph of Death (c.1562), Pieter Bruegel the Elder*



# DANSES MACABRES

TRANSPONED SCORE

for orchestra

Erik Desimpelaere

## Introduction

Molto tranquillo e grave (♩=69)

Musical score for the Introduction section, measures 1-7. Instruments include Tubular Bells, 2 Bell Plates, Vibraphone, and Celesta. Dynamics range from ppp to p. Performance instructions include 'motor on, slow speed' for the Vibraphone and 'L.V. until bar 50' for the Celesta.

Musical score for measures 8-14. Instruments include Piccolo, Horns, Tubas, Bells, Vibraphone, and Celesta. Section 2 'Liberamente' begins at measure 11. Dynamics range from ppp to mp. Performance instructions include '1. piccolo (soli)', '2. piccolo (soli)', 'ruvido', 'change motor to medium speed', and 'con pedale'.

Musical score for measures 15-21. Instruments include Piccolo, Horns, E♭ Clarinets, Tubas, Bells, and Vibraphone. Section 4 'Liberamente' begins at measure 18. Dynamics range from ppp to f. Performance instructions include 'senza sordino', '3. piccolo (soli)', '1. E♭ Clarinet (soli)', '2. E♭ Clarinet (soli)', '(quasi tr.)', 'ord.', 'H', 'to SET 1', and 'change motor to fast speed'.

Musical score for measures 22-24. Instruments include Violins. Section 4 'Liberamente' continues. Dynamics range from ppp to p. Performance instructions include '3 (4 vcl soli)', 'sul A', and '4'.

### Dance I

(← ♩ = ♩ →) Minaccioso (♩=138)

**A tempo (♩=69)**

19 Picc. 1 *f* *mp* *f* *pp* *ff* *rfz* **5**

20 Picc. 2+3 *f* *mp* *f* *pp* *ff* *rfz* **5**

21 Picc. 2+3 *f* *mp* *f* *pp* *ff* *rfz* **5**

22 Ob. 1+2 *f* *pp* **1.**

23 Ob. 3 *f* *pp* **2.**

24 Ob. 3 *f* *pp* **3.**

25 Eb Cl. 1+2 *f* *mp* *f* *pp* *ff* *rfz* **5**

26 Bsn. 1+2 *f* *pp* **1.**

27 Hn. 1+2 *f* *pp sub.* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f*

28 Hn. 3+4 *f* *pp sub.* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f*

29 Hn. 3+4 *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

30 Tub. B. *pp* *ff* *trill* *H*

31 Bell Pl. *SET 1* *hi-hat (open, closed) solo* *mf* *cymbals* *leggiero* *L.V.*

32 Vib. *pp* *f*

33 Cel. *pp* *f*

### Dance I

(← ♩ = ♩ →) Minaccioso (♩=138)

**A tempo (♩=69)**

34 Vla. *tutti* *f* **5** *detaché e marc.*

35 Vc. 1.2. *(tutti div. à4)* *pp* *f* *pp* *ff*

36 Vc. 3.4. *pp* *f* *pp* *ff*

37 Vc. 5.6. *pp* *f* *pp* *ff*

38 Vc. 7.8. *sul A* *pp* *f* *pp* *ff*

39 Db. 1.2. *(tutti div. à3)* *pp* *ff*

40 Db. 3.4. *sul G* *pp* *ff*

41 Db. 5.6. *sul A* *pp* *ff*

29 6

Picc. 1 *rfz*

Picc. 2+3 *rfz*

Ob. 1+2 *pp* *ff* *ff* *mp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f* *mp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *f*

Ob. 3 *ff* *ff* *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *f*

E♭ Cl. 1+2 *rfz*

Bsn. 1+2 *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *f*

Hn. 1+2 *pp* *ff* *f* *mp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f* *mp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *f*

Hn. 3+4 *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *f* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *f*

Tub. B.

SET 1 (hi-hat) *mf* *mp* *ff* *mf* (cymbals)

Vib.

Cel.

Vla. 6 *f* *fff* *f*

Vc. *tutti* *f* *détaché e marc.* *fff* *f*





