Explanation

Debussy's Six Épigraphes antiques for piano-duet are based on a larger work by Debussy for 2 flutes, 2 harps, celesta and a narrator, who recited poems by Pierre Louys published as "Chansons de Bilitis". The celesta part of this work got lost; attempts have been made to reconstruct it, but nevertheless the work is seldom performed due to its unusual instrumentation.

The arrangement for piano-duet of six selected parts, published as "Six Épigraphes antiques", is by Debussy himself. I used this version as a basis for the arrangement presented here. In concordance with the sober and intimate character of the poems, the orchestra is small-sized.