

Libretto

"Le Décor représente les maisons à Paris un Dimanche. Théâtre forain. Trois numéros de Music-Hall servent de Parade:

- Prestidigitateur chinois
- Acrobates
- Petite fille américaine

Trois managers organisent la réclame. Ils se communiquent dans leur langage terrible que la foule prend la parade pour le spectacle intérieur et cherchent grossièrement à le lui faire comprendre.

Personne n'entre.

Après le dernier numéro de la parade, les managers exténués s'écroulent les uns sur les autres. Le Chinois, les acrobates et la petite fille sortent du théâtre vide. Voyant l'effort suprême et la chute des managers, ils essayent d'expliquer à leur tour que le spectacle se donne à l'intérieur.

Jean Cocteau

NB: La direction se réserve le droit d'intervenir l'ordre des numéros de la parade"

Arrangement

Basis for the present arrangement was the version for piano-duet, by Satie, of the original ballet music. This version covers about two-thirds of the full ballet music, leaving out a number of repeats which were meaningful for the piece when staged, but could be missed outside that context.

Re-orchestration seemed desirable, as the original version was written for a fairly large orchestra, which however (it is said with due respect for Satie's revolutionary and independent spirit) is not always used very efficiently. It proved to be possible to achieve a more varied sound with a smaller orchestra, leaving intact however the extensive percussion section required by Satie.

Movements

I:	Chorale	pag. 1
II:	Prélude du Rideau Rouge	3
III:	Les managers organisent la réclame	5
IV:	Prestidigitateur chinois	10
V:	Petite fille américaine; Ragtime du Paquebot	18
VI:	Acrobates	35
VII:	Suprême effort et chute des managers	55
VIII:	Suite au Prélude du Rideau Rouge	59

Duration: approx.12 min.

Orchestra

Abbreviation used in the score:

1 piccolo	Picc
2 flutes	Fl I, Fl II
1 oboe	Ob
1 English horn	EH
2 clarinets (A)	Cl I, Cl II
1 bass clarinet (B flat)	BCl
2 bassoons	Bs I, Bs II
2 horns (F)	Hr I, Hr II
1 trumpet (C)	Tr
1 trombone	Trb
1 tuba	Tb
percussion (4 players)	Perc

in order of appearance in the score:

tambourin	Tamb
1 cymbal, hanging	1Cy
side drum	SD
2 kettledrums (pedal operated)	Timp
pianoforte	Pf
2 cymbals (one fixed on the bass drum)	2Cy
bass drum	BD
triangle	Tri
Glockenspiel	Glsp
gong (small)	Gong
xylophone	Xyl
whistle (police type)	Ws
woodblock	WB
typewriter (*)	TW
whip	Wh
ship's horn (low pitch)	SH
violin	Vi I, Vi II
viola	Va
violoncello	Vc
double bass	DB

(*) When no old-fashioned mechanical typewriter is available, its sound can be imitated by randomly tapping on a wooden surface with two side drum sticks.