

Paul Marquardt



VI. Deva (Bliss Realm)
from “Six Visions from the Karma-Dhatu”
for solo piano (2015)

Performance Notes

The performer should use ample pedal for sustaining the various harmonies and lines. To avoid excessive 8va notation, please note that the upper staff (or two staves where there are four staves) is notated in the treble ottava clef, i.e. the pitches sound one octave higher than written.

The sustained chords in the bottom two staves can be broken as needed based on the performer's reach or preference; however, the three-note chords in the middle treble staff must always be played together along with any other simultaneous notes in the upper (treble + octave) staves. If the notes in the bottom staff are broken into two attacks, they should always be played in an upward motion. Other than the coordinated the three-note chords with the upper staves, there is no need to apply a consistent pattern to breaking notes in the bottom staff.

For convenience and clarity, the polyrhythms on page 5 are shown below in a simplified notation:

The image shows a simplified notation for polyrhythms on page 5, consisting of two staves in 7/4 time. The upper staff is written in a treble clef with an 8va sign, indicating that the pitches sound one octave higher than written. The lower staff is written in a bass clef. The notation is divided into two measures. In the first measure, the upper staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and accents, and the lower staff contains a sequence of notes. In the second measure, the upper staff contains a sequence of notes with slurs and accents, and the lower staff contains a sequence of notes. The notation is simplified, focusing on the rhythmic patterns and fingerings (6 and 3) indicated by brackets and numbers below the notes.

VI. Deva (Bliss Realm)

painfully soft and delicate

...beings in the Deva (bliss) realm live for billions of years, experiencing every possible physical pleasure...

♩ = 76

The musical score consists of two systems, each with three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle in alto clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The first system includes a tempo marking of quarter note = 76. The first two measures of each system contain whole notes with fermatas. The third system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features triplet eighth notes in the top staff. The middle and bottom staves of both systems contain sustained chords with fermatas.

* Break chords between the lower two staves as needed based your left hand reach, but always play the three notes of the middle treble staff together with the note(s) in the upper treble + octave staves.

4

This system contains measures 4 through 8. The top staff features a melodic line with triplets in measures 4 and 5, and a fermata in measure 8. The middle and bottom staves provide harmonic support with sustained chords and octaves. Measure numbers 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12 are indicated at the beginning of their respective measures.

This system contains measures 9 through 13. The top staff begins with a *pp* dynamic marking and features a melodic line with a fermata in measure 13. The middle and bottom staves continue the harmonic accompaniment. Measure numbers 10, 11, 12, and 13 are indicated at the beginning of their respective measures.

(LH) (RH)

3 *ppp* 3 3 3 3 3 3 5

6

3

(loco)

poco cresc.

mf

quick, like a ghost *8^{va}*

mp

ppp

pp

...but in the last three days of their lives, they begin to emit a foul smell. As a result, their god-realm friends abandon them, as it disturbs their god-realm bliss...

The musical score consists of two systems, each with four staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). The first system covers measures 7-10, and the second system covers measures 10-13. The music is characterized by complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and metric modulations. The top voice (Soprano) maintains a constant eighth-note speed throughout the metric changes. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

Measure 7: $\leftarrow \text{triplet} = \rightarrow \text{note} = 65.1^*$

Measure 10: $\leftarrow \text{note} = \rightarrow \text{note} = 55.8^*$

* In the metric modulations, the speed of the eighth notes in the top voice remains constant between this measure and the previous.

...having spent all of their good karma on countless eons of physical pleasure without benefitting other beings, they die alone, knowing they will be reborn in a lower realm...

8

breaking down, deteriorating...

spacious, timeless

pppp

ppp