

**Eugène Ysaÿe**  
(1858-1931)

**Sonata for solo violin  
in a minor  
opus 27/2**

**reconstruction of the earliest version  
based on the Lavergne manuscript  
(B-Bc BV-07-4000)**

**by Koenraad Sterckx**

**Attention: an important update of this edition is expected in June 2018!**

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**[Sonata 2]**  
**Dies irré [sic] (à thibaud) 4ème Sonate [sic] (l'obsession !)**

[I. Prélude. Poco vivace]

\*In the margin: "pour la fin aussi". \*\*Y.: "détaché". \*\*\*Y.: "lié par 2". \*\*\*\*In bars 26 (2nd and 3rd beat) and 27, an a seems more appropriate than the b. First edition: a. \*\*\*\*\*It is impossible to decipher Y's intentions in the MS (p.41). Bars 31-32 in this edition are a disputable reconstruction.

32

35 *lié\* ①*  
ou ♭ bon

39 \*\*  
essai du la [sic?]  
non arpège  
2 mesur[e]s  
lié 4?  
[simile]

45 \*\*\*

48 [simile] \*\*\*\*

54 \*\*\*\*\*  
4  
\*\*\*\*\*

59 \*

63

\*Y. didn't specify how to slur the notes. \*\*It is not clear what Y. might have intended in bars 40-44. \*\*\*It is unclear how and whether this note, in the MS at the end of a stave as well, should be slurred to the next bar. \*\*\*\*MS: "arpéger ici | lié | par deux". \*\*\*\*\*How exactly Y wanted to continue the arpeggios, cannot be deduced. \*\*\*\*\*Y. wanted to insert a bar here, but the bar in question couldn't be traced in the MS. \*\*\*\*\*MS: "quatre de le chant | avec pédale". Probably, Y. wanted to insert a variation of bars 36-39. \*\*\*\*\*It is not clear how Y. wanted bars 55-56 to be arpeggiated. The lower d's were added later in bars 54-58. 59: MS.: "2 mesures". A bar making a logical transition to bar 60 should be inserted between bars 59 and 60. It couldn't be found in the MS

66

71

75

82

87

91

94

97

2 fois

la 1re fois avec le mi seulement  
la seconde avec contrechant imitatif

*f* *f*

4 1 0

\*

1 4 1 4

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

73: fingerings not very clear, perhaps 4 - 1 - 0, as in previous bar? 74-80: Y. writes "2 fois | la 1re fois avec le mi seulement | la seconde avec | contrechant | imitatif". Unclear what Y.'s intentions were exactly. 85: this chord is difficult to decipher. A-c is an other possible reading. 86: a few extra bars seems necessary to make the transition to bar 87. None have been found in the MS. 87: MS: "le climax". 97-98: MS: "ici faire la coda | su $\bigcirc$ A [=bar 11-?] et finir | par Bach". Y. did not elaborate the coda in the MS, however.

[II.] Malincolia [sic?]

Molto sostenuto  
(sourdine?...)

Musical score for 'Malincolia [sic?]' in G major, 6/8 time. The score consists of seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/8 time signature. The tempo is 'Molto sostenuto' with the instruction '(sourdine?...)' in parentheses. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings. Measure numbers 4, 7, 10, 14, 18, and 22 are indicated at the start of their respective staves. A 'p' (piano) dynamic marking is present at the beginning of the final staff. The piece concludes with a fermata over the final note.

26

31 *rit.* Tempo Lento

35 *rit.* *8va* | *8va* | *Lento*

40 *harm.*

[III. Danse des ombres. Sarabande. Lento]

2 Var. en 4tolets et 6tolets sur ton relatif - tonique, puis sol min[eur]-rêve puis retour

Menuet - variations

finir en accords forte - le thème arco -

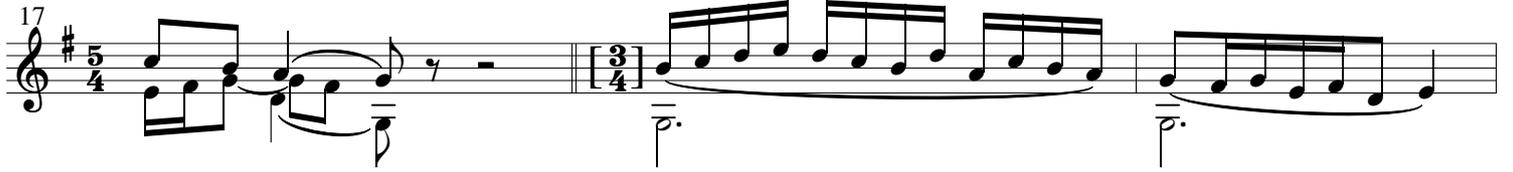
*pizz.*

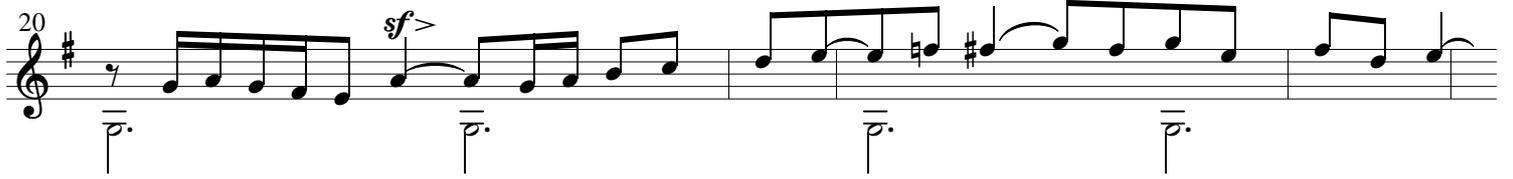
5

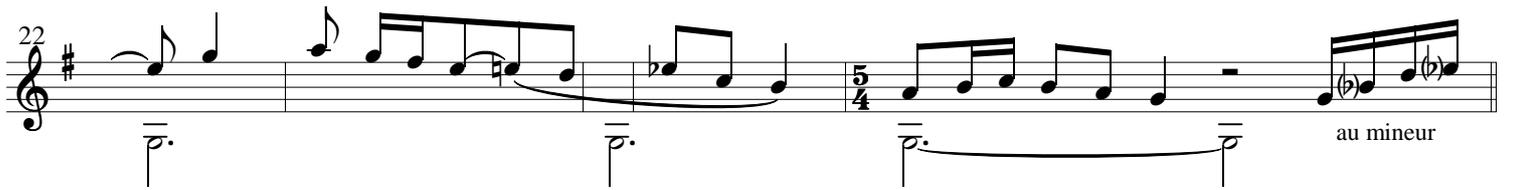
9 [*arco*]

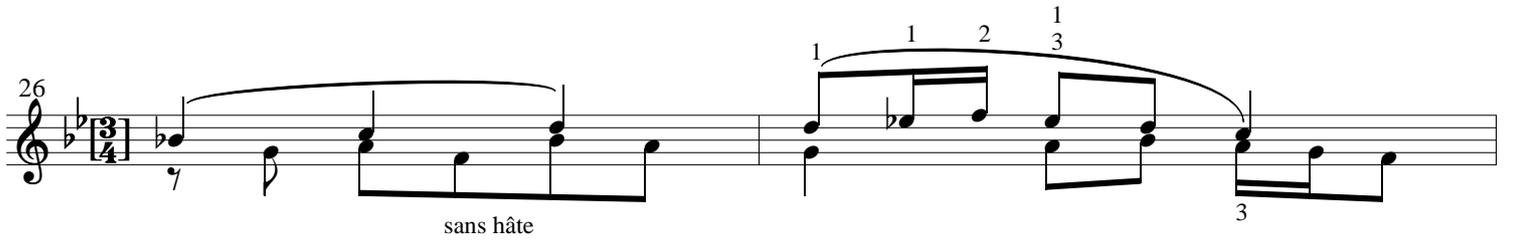
13 2 0 -?

Musette

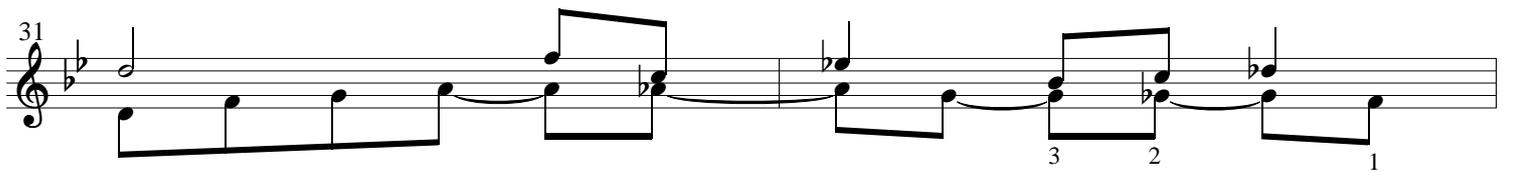
17 

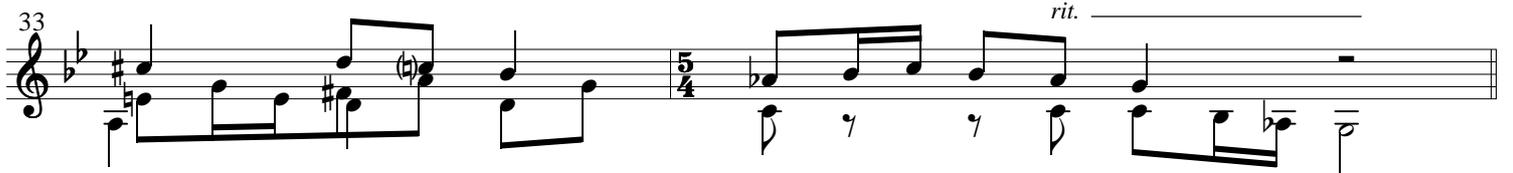
20 

22 

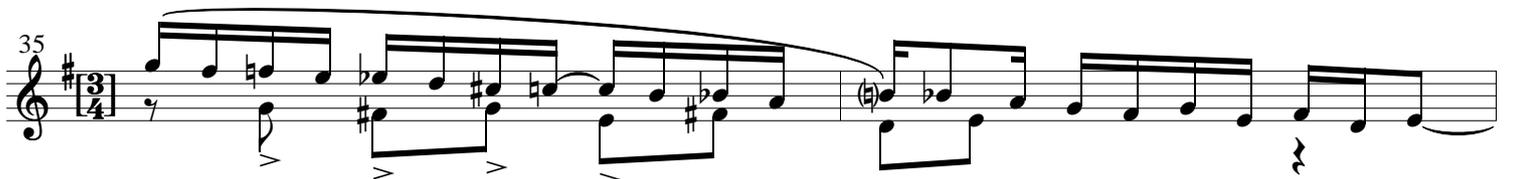
26 

28 

31 

33 

[Var. 4.] plutôt plus lent

35 

37 *4 4 3 2* *o 1 1* *1* *2 3 1 4* *1* *Mo-*  
*1 - o* *ré* *4 4 3* *1 2 1 1* *2 - o*  
*3* *4 3* *1*

40 *-zart*

43 *Bee- -thoven* *tournez*  
*plus* *5/4*

[Var. 5.] Le rêve [sic?] en mi min[eur].  
 Molto meno - commodo.

45 *ben tranquillo*

47 [sic]

49 *8va*  
*2 1 2 -?*

50 *8va*

[Var. 6]  
 53

55

57

8va

ou le 3ème doigt?

59

61

8va

retour - oui

63

67

69

[IV.] Final (La maj - coda maj.) (Les furies)

This musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef. It begins in 2/4 time and features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score includes several dynamic markings: *v* (accent) at the beginning, *8va* (octave up) at measure 5, *p* (piano) at measure 29, and *dolce* (softly) at measure 29. Performance instructions include *d'ici* [?] at measure 15, *(si possible?)* at measure 18, and *[sic!]* at measure 21. The score is divided into measures 1 through 29, with some measures containing multiple stems. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 at measure 12 and back to 2/4 at measure 25. The piece concludes with a final cadence in 3/4 time.

32 [?] (ou lié en 4?)

34 ? 2 fois 2 fois 2 fois

36 8va loco [sic!]

40 dim. pizz.

44 1 sul ponticello arco 2

48 ord[inario] [sul] ponticello

51

53 ff pp ff

56 *f* *mf* *dim.* *dim.* *pp*

Musical staff 56-59. Measure 56 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The music features a descending eighth-note pattern. Measure 57 is marked mezzo-forte (*mf*). Measures 58 and 59 show a gradual decrescendo (*dim.*) leading to a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic. A first ending bracket with a repeat sign and a fermata is placed over the final two notes of measure 59.

60

Musical staff 60-63. Measure 60 continues the descending eighth-note pattern. Measure 61 features a change in rhythm with a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note. Measure 62 has a key signature change to one sharp (F#). Measure 63 continues with eighth-note patterns.

64

Musical staff 64-67. Measure 64 consists of two chords. Measure 65 has a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 66 features a descending eighth-note pattern. Measure 67 continues with eighth-note patterns.

68

Musical staff 68-71. Measure 68 starts with a whole rest. Measures 69 and 70 feature a steady eighth-note pattern. Measure 71 continues with eighth-note patterns.

72 *[sul] ponticello* *pp*

Musical staff 72-74. Measure 72 starts with a piano (*pp*) dynamic and includes the instruction *[sul] ponticello*. The music features a steady eighth-note pattern. Measure 73 continues with eighth-note patterns. Measure 74 features a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

75

Musical staff 75-77. Measure 75 continues with eighth-note patterns. Measure 76 features a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 77 features a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

78

Musical staff 78-80. Measure 78 features a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 79 includes a fermata over a chord. Measure 80 features a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

81 *même*

Musical staff 81-83. Measure 81 starts with a 2/4 time signature and a fermata. Measure 82 features a key signature change to one sharp (F#). Measure 83 continues with eighth-note patterns. The word *même* is written at the end of the staff.

84

87

90

Coda

92

95

100

108

Esquissée le 7-8 Juillet 1923  
E.Y.