

Etude No. 1

26 etudes

Dionisio Aguado
(1784-1849)

Moderato

First system of musical notation (measures 1-4). The piece is in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4. Dynamics include piano (p) and accents. The text "i m a i m a simile..." is written above the notes. Measure 4 contains a circled 3 and a circled 4.

Second system of musical notation (measures 5-8). Measure 5 is marked with a "5". A bracket above measures 6-8 is labeled "6/6 CIII". The notation includes fingerings and a repeat sign at the end of the system.

Third system of musical notation (measures 9-12). Measure 9 is marked with a "9". The notation includes fingerings and a sharp sign (#) on the second string in measure 10. The system ends with a repeat sign.

Fourth system of musical notation (measures 13-16). Measure 13 is marked with a "13". A bracket above measures 14-16 is labeled "6/6 CIII". The notation includes fingerings and a repeat sign at the end of the system.

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i m a i m a simile...

T
A
B

5

6/6 CIII

T
A
B

9

T
A
B

13

6/6 CIII

T
A
B

Musical Tip Sheet

The Big 5:

1. Reduce work with posture and a positive attitude
2. Troubleshoot - Everything should be easy
3. Breathe
4. Trust yourself to play accurately and musically inspired (instead of judging)
5. Always play as a gift to yourself and others

The 7 Steps to Learn Any Piece:

1. Make small sections
2. Know all the notes and musical markings
3. Clap and count the rhythm aloud
4. Play the right hand alone, counting aloud
5. Play the left hand alone, counting aloud
6. Play hands together, pausing when needed (no mistakes!)
7. Play hands together slowly in rhythm, counting aloud

Musical Starting Points:

1. Decide which notes are melody (probably stems up), and play the others quieter
2. Connect all melody notes smoothly (no gaps)
3. When a musical line or melody goes up in pitch, get quieter
4. When a musical line or melody goes down in pitch, get louder
5. Don't let the high notes stand out (any note higher than the ones before and after)

Practice Tips:

1. Before slowing down or speeding up (rubato) master it at a steady pace.
2. For tricky spots, state out loud exactly what the problem is, in every detail.
3. Memorize every piece (even if you don't, you'll learn it faster if you try)
4. Have a purpose behind each repetition (so you don't ingrain bad habits).
5. Video yourself for performance practice, and to hear what is working.

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