Menuet in G

6 Humoresques de concert, opus 14, nr. 1

Ignacy Jan Paderewski

arranged by Paul De Bra for accordion quintet (1, 2, 3, 4, bass)

Ignacy Jan Paderewski was not only a gifted Polish pianist and composer but also a politician. He was prime minister and foreign minister and signed the Treaty of Versailles which ended World War 1.

The first of 6 humoresques for piano solo is one of his best known compositions. It mostly sounds simple, but it uses almost all of the range of the piano keyboard. That makes it a challenge for an arrangement for accordion ensemble. It took some creativity to finally make it possible to play this piece (minus a few notes you will hopefully not miss) using an accordion with at least 61 notes (low G to high G).

The arrangement tries to make it possible to play this work using smaller accordions, by means of different voices using different registers. That does not make it easier to play (because the voices need to be synchronized).

A recording by Professor P is available on YouTube.

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