PIERRE BOULEZ

Le marteau sans maître. Fac-similé du brouillon et de la première mise au net / Facsimile of the Draft Score and the First Copy of the Full Score. Edited by Pascal Decroupet.

page "4" of full score

Mainz, 2005. 38 x 30 cm. 215 pp. Beautiful full-color facsimile edition of the autograph draft score and fair copy, produced on the occasion of the 80th birthday of the composer. Since its premiere 50 years ago at the 1955 Baden-Baden Festival, “Le marteau sans maître”, with its novel scoring (contralto, alto flute, viola, guitar, vibraphone, xylorimba and unpitched percussion) and poetry by René Char in four of the nine interlocked movements, has been considered one of the most outstanding serial works of the postwar avantgarde. Commentators have pointed out its wonderful hypnotic soundworld, complex rhythmic structure, and sudden bursts of instrumental crossfire, creating such a demand on the performers that some fifty rehearsals were required before its premiere. This excellent facsimile offers an exciting entry into Boulez' “workshop” — allowing us to examine, side by side, the pencil draft score, final ink version, as well as a selection of sketch pages. Handsome binding in red linen with slipcase. $254

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