

*A Kalmus Classic Edition*

Erik  
**SATIE**

**THREE GYMNOPEDIES**

FOR PIANO

K 02170



# ERIK SATIE

May 17, 1866–July 1, 1925

Erik Satie was an eccentric French composer whose rather carefree lifestyle attracted a group of friends composed primarily of musicians, poets, dancers and artists. His father was a music publisher in Paris, and thus the young Satie studied music from an early age. At the age of 13 he began studying organ with Alexander Guilmant at the Paris Conservatory but shortly thereafter stopped his musical training and began playing piano for various shows and cabarets. Like Debussy, Satie's early works were scorned by music critics because they were written to ridicule standard compositional practices of the day. It was through Debussy's friendship and encouragement that Satie decided to return to music study, and so at the age of 40 Satie began his formal training in composition. Even so, other composers thought Satie uneducated, and his music did not receive serious recognition until after his death. In addition to works for piano, Satie also composed ballets and orchestral and ensemble works.

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to Mademoiselle de Bret  
**GYMNOPIEDIE**  
**I**

ERIK SATIE

Lent et douloureux

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo and mood are indicated as "Lent et douloureux".

- System 1 (Measures 1-5):** The right hand plays a series of chords with a wavy line indicating a tremolo effect. The left hand plays a simple bass line of quarter notes. A *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking is present in the first measure. A slur covers the final two notes of the right hand in the fifth measure.
- System 2 (Measures 6-10):** Measure 6 is marked with a box containing the number "6". A long slur spans across measures 6, 7, and 8 in the right hand. The right hand plays a melodic line of quarter notes. The left hand continues with quarter notes. A *f* (forte) dynamic marking appears in measure 8.
- System 3 (Measures 11-15):** Measure 11 is marked with a box containing the number "11". A long slur spans across measures 11, 12, 13, and 14 in the right hand. The right hand plays a melodic line of quarter notes. The left hand continues with quarter notes. A *pp* dynamic marking is present in measure 12.
- System 4 (Measures 16-20):** Measure 16 is marked with a box containing the number "16". A long slur spans across measures 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 in the right hand. The right hand plays a melodic line of quarter notes. The left hand continues with quarter notes.