Étude I

Mirie it is

solo piano

3'45"

2019-20
Étude I: Mirie it is

Performance Notes

All of the material in this piece is derived from the Middle English song, ‘Mirie it is while summer last’. Throughout the piece, multiple versions of the tune in different keys and with different durations combine to form what Ligeti referred to as a ‘tempo fugue’. For example, from bs. 1-12 the left hand plays the tune in F-minor ‘in 3’, while the right hand plays the tune in B-minor ‘in 2’. For this reason, accidentals apply only to the stave in which they appear.

Carefully observe slurs and dashed lines which indicate phrasal direction, including when a voice transfers from the right hand to the left hand.

This work was awarded the LeFanu prize for composition in 2020

Duration: 3’45”

Completed May, 2020

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ÉTUDE I: MIRIE IT IS

Frederick Viner
(May, 2020)

12 Misterioso con moto, \( \frac{3}{8} = c108 \) or faster

(Mirie it is while summer lasts with fugues song...)

\( p \) sempre, semplice
con ped. ad lib.

7 rit. \( \ldots \ldots \ldots \) poco
A tempo

Ritmico e poco agitato

\( pp \)
*) Hold the initial LH chord until you have completed one or two repetitions of the RH material. Gradually 'slow down' and soften the RH while you 'speed up' and louden the LH; once the LH reaches \textit{fff} \textit{presto} (the RH will be inaudible at this point), swiftly move on to the \textit{con fuoco}.