

Viola i Piano

JOSEP SOLER

SONATA núm. 1
per a viola i piano

Sobre un tema de
Giuseppe Verdi

AC342



Sonata núm. 1 per a viola i piano

Josep Soler ha escrit diferents obres dedicades a la viola entre les que destaquen dues sonates, unes variacions i dues obres a solo. La **Sonata núm. 1 per a viola i piano** va ser escrita entre 1993 i 1994 i porta com a subtítol “sobre un tema de Verdi”. Efectivament, Soler es va deixar influir per dos temes del *Requiem* de Verdi que són els que donen unitat a aquesta obra de prop de mitja hora de durada. Segons ens comenta l'autor “Verdi és un músic al que li tinc molt d'apreci. No solament perquè va ser un gran compositor, sinó perquè sembla que, a més, va ser una meravellosa persona”. És sabuda la passió de Soler per l'òpera (el seu catàleg compta amb una dotzena de títols operístics), però en aquesta ocasió l'obra que presentem està molt allunyada del món líric.

Els dos temes verdians serveixen per generar diferents variacions i juxtaposicions i mai no hi apareixen de la mateixa manera. Com diu Soler: “la repetició per si mateixa és feina del copista, no del compositor”. De fet, l'autor s'ha deixat seduir per aquests temes, però no els copia literalment sinó que juga amb la seva modificació. L'altre element important de l'obra és la utilització sistemàtica de l'acord de Tristany com a base del seu llenguatge harmònic, un fet que defineix l'obra de Soler dels darrers vint-i-cinc anys. Els elements dodecafonistes que Soler utilitza es basen en les dotze posicions d'aquest acord que van apareixent al llarg de l'obra. L'escriptura —densa, contrapuntística i complexa— aconsegueix una obra molt expressiva i d'un cert caràcter intimista.

Malgrat que es presenta en un sol moviment, l'obra s'estructura en sis seccions de manera que les seccions senars són un preludi de les seccions parells que són les de més entitat.

La **Sonata núm. 1 per a viola i piano** va ser estrenada per Pablo García Torrelles (viola) i Pascual Jover (piano) el 28 d'octubre de 2004 al Club Diario Levante de València. Anteriorment havia estat enregistrada en CD per Paul Cortese i Michel Wagemans (1998).

Per a una anàlisi exhaustiva de l'obra, veieu la tesi doctoral de Pablo García Torrelles a <http://hera.ugr.es/tesisugr/15788222.pdf>

David Puertas Esteve

Músic i Periodista

Josep Soler i Sardà va néixer a Vilafranca del Penedès el 1935. Allà inicià, amb Rosa Lara, l'aprenentatge musical que continuaria a *París* amb René Leibowitz (1960) i a Barcelona amb Cristòfol Taltabull (1960-1964). Ha rebut el Premi de l'Òpera de Montecarlo (1964), dues vegades el Premi Ciutat de Barcelona (1962 i 1978) i el XIII Premi Oscar Esplà. La seva òpera *Edip i Jocasta* va ser estrenada al Gran Teatre del Liceu el 1986.

En les seves obres, molt influïdes per la música de Schönberg i d'Alban Berg, usa generalment la tècnica dodecafònica en un estil impressionista i expressionista, alhora que, progressivament, esdevé més senzill i auster.

En el camp bibliogràfic, Josep Soler ha escrit diversos llibres i articles. Des del 1977 fins al 1982 va ser professor d'història i estètica al Conservatori Superior Municipal de Música de Barcelona i, fins al 1985, ho va ser de composició en el mateix centre; actualment és director del Conservatori Professional de Música de Badalona i Acadèmic Numerari de la Reial Acadèmia Catalana de Belles Arts de Sant Jordi, de Barcelona.

Sonata núm. 1 per a viola i piano

Josep Soler ha escrito diferentes obras dedicadas a la viola entre las que destacan dos sonatas, unas variaciones y dos obras a solo. La **Sonata núm. 1 per a viola i piano** fue escrita entre los años 1993 y 1994 e incluye como subtítulo “sobre un tema de Verdi”. Efectivamente, Soler se dejó influir por dos temas del *Requiem* de Verdi que son los que proporcionan unidad a esta obra de casi media hora de duración. Según nos comenta el autor: “Verdi es un músico por el cual tengo gran aprecio. No solamente por que fue un gran compositor, si no por que según parece fue además una persona maravillosa”. Es conocida la pasión de Soler por la ópera (su catálogo cuenta con una docena de títulos de este género), pero en esta ocasión la obra que presentamos está muy alejada del mundo lírico.

Los dos temas verdianos sirven para generar diferentes variaciones y yuxtaposiciones, y nunca, éstas aparecen de la misma manera. Como dice Soler: “la repetición por si misma es trabajo del copista, no del compositor”. En realidad, el autor se deja seducir por estos temas, pero no los copia literalmente si no que juega con su transformación. El otro elemento importante de la obra es la utilización sistemática del acorde de Tristán como base de su lenguaje armónico, hecho que define la obra de Soler de los últimos veinticinco años. Los elementos dodecafónicos que Soler utiliza se basan en las doce posiciones de este acorde que van apareciendo a lo largo de la obra. La escritura —densa, contrapuntística y compleja— consigue una obra muy expresiva y de un cierto carácter intimista.

A pesar de presentarse en un solo movimiento, la obra se estructura en seis secciones de manera que las secciones impares son un prelude para las secciones pares que son las de más entidad.

La *Sonata núm. 1 para viola y piano* fue estrenada por Pablo García Torrelles (viola) y Pascual Jover (piano) el 28 de Octubre de 2004 en el Club Diario Levante de Valencia. Anteriormente, en 1998, había sido grabada en CD por Paul Cortese y Michel Wagemans.

Para un análisis exhaustivo de la obra, ver la tesis doctoral de Pablo García Torrelles en: <http://hera.ugr.es/tesisugr/15788222.pdf>

David Puertas Esteve
Músic i Periodista

Josep Soler i Sardà nació en Vilafranca del Penedès en 1935. Fue allí donde inició con Rosa Lara el aprendizaje musical, que continuaría en París con René Leibowitz (1960) y en Barcelona con Cristòfol Taltabull (1960-1964). Ha recibido el Premio de la Ópera de Montecarlo (1964), dos veces el premio Ciudad de Barcelona (1962 y 1978) y el XIII Premio Óscar Esplà. Su ópera *Edipo i Yocasta* se estrenó en el Gran Teatro del Liceo en 1986.

En sus obras, muy influidas por la música de Schönberg y Alban Berg, usa generalmente la técnica dodecafónica en un estilo impresionista i expresionista, a la vez que progresivamente, deviene más sencillo y austero.

En el campo bibliográfico, Josep Soler ha escrito varios libros y artículos. Desde 1977 hasta 1982 fue profesor de historia y estética en el Conservatorio Superior Municipal de Música de Barcelona y hasta 1985, lo fue de composición en el mismo centro; actualmente es director del Conservatorio Profesional de Música de Badalona y Académico Numerario de la *Reial Acadèmia Catalana de Belles Arts de Sant Jordi*, de Barcelona.

Sonata núm. 1 per a viola i piano (Sonata no. 1 for viola and piano)

Josep Soler has composed different works dedicated to the viola, amongst which feature two sonatas, some variations and two solo works. **Sonata núm. 1 per a viola i piano** (Sonata no. 1 for viola and piano) was written between 1993 and 1994 and its subtitle is “on a theme by Verdi”. In fact, Soler allowed himself to be influenced by the themes of Verdi’s *Requiem* which lends unity to this work that lasts nearly half an hour. According to the composer, “Verdi is a musician whom I hold in high regard. Not only because he was a great composer but because it also seems that he was a wonderful person». Soler’s passion for opera is well known (his catalogue includes a dozen titles for this genre), but this time we will present a work that is a far cry from the lyrical world.

The two Verdi-inspired themes serve to create different variations and juxtapositions and they never appear in the same way. As Soler says, “repetition in itself is the work of a copyist, not a composer”. The composer actually lets himself be seduced by these themes, but he does not copy them literally, he rather plays with their transformation. The other important element of the work is the systematic use of the Tristan chord as the base of the harmonic language, which defines Soler’s work during the past twenty-five years. The twelve-tone elements that Soler uses are based on twelve positions of this chord that appear throughout the piece. The composition is dense, contrapuntal and complex and results in a very expressive work with a somewhat intimist nature.

In spite of being presented in just one movement, the work is structured in six sections so that the odd sections are a prelude to the even sections, which are more significant.

Sonata núm. 1 para viola y piano (Sonata no. 1 for viola and piano) was first officially performed by Pablo García Torrelles (viola) and Pascual Jover (piano) on 28 October 2004 in the Club Diario Levante in Valencia. Previously, it was recorded onto CD by Paul Cortese and Michel Wagemans in 1998.

For an exhaustive analysis of the work, see the doctoral dissertation by Pablo García Torrelles at: <http://hera.ugr.es/tesisugr/15788222.pdf>

David Puertas Esteve
Musician and Journalist

Josep Soler i Sardà was born in Vilafranca del Penedès in 1935. His musical apprenticeship began here with Rosa Lara, and would continue in Paris with René Leibowitz (1960), and in Barcelona with Cristòfol Taltabull (1960-1964). He has received the “Montecarlo’s Opera Award” (1964), the “Ciutat de Barcelona Award”, twice (1962 and 1978), and the “13rd. Óscar Esplà Award”. His opera *Edipo and Yocasta* premiered in the Gran Teatre del Liceu, in 1986.

In his works, very influenced by the music of Schönberg and Alban Berg, he generally uses the dodecaphonic technique in an expressionistic and impressionistic style, while at the same time becoming more austere and simple.

In the bibliographic world, Josep Soler has written numerous articles and books. From 1977 until 1982, he was a professor of History and Aesthetics at the Barcelona City’s Superior Music Conservatory, and until 1985, a music professor at the same institution. He is currently Director of the Badalona’s Professional Music Conservatory, and Numerary Academician of the Sant Jordi’s Royal Catalanian Academy of the Arts, in Barcelona.

Giuseppe Verdi

Messa da Requiem

Libera me c. 138 y ss.

Andante ♩ = 80

Sopr.
(Solo)

(espress.)
ppp do - na e - is,

c. 195

Sopr.
(Solo)

ppp et lux per - pe - (tua) (e) - is, lu - ce - at e - (is)
dolcissimo

The image shows two staves of musical notation for a soprano solo. The first staff is marked 'Andante' with a tempo of ♩ = 80. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. The melody starts with a half note 'do', followed by a quarter note 'na', and then a half note 'e' with a flat (B-flat) and a fermata. The dynamic is *(espress.) ppp*. The second staff is marked 'c. 195' and continues the melody. It starts with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats, and a common time signature. The melody begins with a half note 'et', followed by a quarter note 'lux', a quarter note 'per', a quarter note 'pe', a quarter note '(tua)', a quarter note '(e)', a quarter note 'is', a quarter note 'lu', a quarter note 'ce', a quarter note 'at', and a half note 'e' with a fermata and '(is)'. The dynamic is *ppp* and the performance instruction is *dolcissimo*.

SONATA NÚM. 1 PER A VIOLA I PIANO

Sobre un tema de G. Verdi

Josep Soler

(1935)

Tranquillo
sempre molto rubato

molto espress.

p *mf*

sempre molto rubato

dolce

5 3 3 3 3

4 *p* *mf* *f dim.*

f

7 *rit.* *a tempo*

5 3 3

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10

Musical score for measures 10-12. The system includes a soprano line, a piano (pp) section with treble and bass staves, and a bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 10 features a triplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line. Measure 11 continues with similar rhythmic patterns. Measure 12 concludes with a triplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line.

13

Musical score for measures 13-15. The system includes a soprano line, a piano (pp) section with treble and bass staves, and a bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 13 features a triplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line. Measure 14 continues with similar rhythmic patterns. Measure 15 concludes with a triplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line.

16

Musical score for measures 16-17. The system includes a soprano line, a piano (pp) section with treble and bass staves, and a bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 16 features a quintuplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass line. Measure 17 concludes with a triplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line.

18

Musical score for measures 18-20. The system includes a soprano line, a piano (pp) section with treble and bass staves, and a bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 18 features a triplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line. Measure 19 continues with similar rhythmic patterns. Measure 20 concludes with a triplet of eighth notes in the soprano and piano parts, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line.

20

Musical score for measures 20-21. The system consists of three staves: a single bass staff at the top, a grand staff (treble and bass) in the middle, and a single bass staff at the bottom. Measure 20 features a triplet of eighth notes in the top bass staff, a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the treble staff. Measure 21 continues with similar patterns, including a quintuplet in the treble staff and triplets in the bass staves.

22

Musical score for measures 22-24. Measure 22 begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and contains a triplet of eighth notes in the top bass staff. Measure 23 features a dynamic marking of *p dolce* (piano dolce) and includes a triplet of eighth notes in the top bass staff and a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff. Measure 24 concludes with a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

25

Musical score for measures 25-27. Measure 25 starts with a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff. Measure 26 features a quintuplet of eighth notes in the treble staff and a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff. Measure 27 concludes with a quintuplet of eighth notes in the treble staff and a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

28

Musical score for measures 28-30. Measure 28 begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and includes a triplet of eighth notes in the top bass staff. Measure 29 features a triplet of eighth notes in the top bass staff and a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff. Measure 30 concludes with a triplet of eighth notes in the bottom bass staff. Above the system, the tempo markings *rit.* (ritardando) and *poco più mosso* (a little more motion) are indicated. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

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