

Menuet and trio Hov XVI:1 by Haydn

What does the title mean?

A menuet is a French graceful dance in triple (3/4) time. The trio is a contrasting section that belongs to the minuet but traditionally was played only by 3 instruments (minuet would have been played by the full orchestra). The trio usually is in a different key.

What key is this in?

Menuet - C major. Bars 9 to 10 are in F major, bars 11-12 G major-ish.

Trio - C minor. Bars 29 to 36 are in the relative major of Eb major, then it returns to C minor.

C minor is the parallel minor to C major.

Notation:

Metronome marking - around 112 crotchets per minute

Triplets - 3 notes in the time of two

Acciaccatura - small grace note before the main note - type of ornament

Trill - rapidly alternate between two notes - type of ornament

Appoggiatura - accented non-harmonic tone - type of ornament

F- forte - loud

Mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

Repeat sign - repeat the section

Staccato - short and detached

Diminuendo - gradually getting softer

Flat - lower the note a semitone

Natural - cancel the sharp or flat

Sharp - raise the note a semitone

Mp - mezzo piano - moderately soft

Slur - play legato - play smoothly connected

Tenuto with staccato - mezzo staccato - moderately short and detached

Menuet da capo - go back to the beginning of the minuet

Da capo and repeats - usually you would play all the repeats in the minuet, all the repeats in the trio, then on the da capo, no repeats.