

8 September 2009

<http://oliviermessiaen.net/compositions/details/id:e:75>
from: Boston University Messiaen Project

Vingt regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus

Twenty Gazes/Looks at the Infant Jesus

Composed: 1944, 23 March - 8 September (Paris)
Duration: 125 minutes
Premiere: 26 March 1945, Salle Gaveau, Paris; Yvonne Loriod
Dedication: "à Yvonne Loriod"

Movements:

1. Regard du Père [Look (Gaze) of the Father]
2. Regard de l'étoile [The Look (Gaze) of the Star]
3. L'échange [The Exchange]
4. Regard de la Vierge [The Look (Gaze) of the Virgin]
5. Regard du Fils sur le Fils [The Son's Look (Gaze) at the Sons [of Heaven]]
6. Par Lui tout a été fait [Through Him All Things Were Made]
7. Regard de la Croix [The Look (Gaze) of the Cross]
8. Regard des hauteurs [The Look (Gaze) of the Heights]
9. Regard du temps [The Look (Gaze) of Time]
10. Regard de l'Esprit de joie [The Look (Gaze) of the Spirit of Joy]
11. Première communion de la Vierge [The First Communion of the Virgin]
12. La parole toute-puissante [The Almighty Word]
13. Noël [Noel]
14. Regard des anges [The Look (Gaze) of the Angels]
15. Le baiser de l'Enfant-Jésus [The Kiss of the Infant Jesus]
16. Regard des prophètes, des bergers et des mages [The Look (Gaze) of the Prophets, the Sheperds and the Magi]
17. Regard du silence [The Look (Gaze) of Silence]
18. Regard de l'onction terrible [The Look (Gaze) of Extreme Unction]
19. Je dors, mais mon cœur veille [I sleep, but my heart is awake]
20. Regard de l'église d'amour [The Look (Gaze) of the Church of Love]

Assignment: due 15 September 2009

Listening to (several times) and create an analysis/chart for one of the following sets:

6 and 10 [Spirit of Joy] **11 and 15** [Nativity Events] **19 and 20** [Glory of the Eternal Church]

You can do this in pairs or on your own. Be sure to put both names on your submission.

Consider:

form (use 8 Sept lecture as a model)

themes (from his list and marks in the score — and consider use of **silence**)

thematic transformation (expansion, contraction, augmentation, diminution)

prolongation (by what means and how: repetition, sequence, other...)

expectation (fulfilled or awakened)

notation and metric organization (by phrase or theme, by regular meter, by changing meter,
— and consider **added values**)

harmony (key center, modes, poly modality, poly chords, other relations)

voicing (range, contrasts, density, sparsity)

dynamics and articulations (changes, relation of sections, extremes)

tempi (changes, relation of sections, extremes)