

Martin Rane Bauck  
**marsyas and apollo**  
étude for piano harmonics

2016-17

Duration: ca. 6 min.

Commissioned by Jonas Olsson with support from the Swedish Arts Grants Committee.

*marsyas and apollo* was written as a part of a project run together with pianist Jonas Olsson and composer Johan Svensson, where the harmonics on a grand piano have been studied systematically. The results can be seen on [www.pianoharmonics.com](http://www.pianoharmonics.com).

#### Performance notes

- The harmonics are notated in the bottom staff.
- The diamond-shaped noteheads indicate which string/key to play.
- The boxes above each note contain two numbers —  $x/y$  — where  $x$  indicates the desired partial of the string, and  $y$  indicates which node to press down as viewed from the keyboard (alternatively, the reciprocal  $y/x$  expresses the position of the desired node as a fraction of the string's length, as viewed from the performer).
- The resulting sounds are notated in the upper staff (with approximate pitch).

This version of the score has been adapted to a Steinway grand piano model C. If performed on a different grand piano, some adjustments with regard to nodes may be required. Specifically, the sections 25-32 and 45-51 can be played in front of the dampers ( $11/1$  and  $10/1$ ), if possible. Changes of partial and/or string should be avoided.

Below is a photo of one solution to how the nodes can be marked for this piece, with small pieces of yarn tied around the strings. (Observe: Not all nodes are marked in the photo.)



For further advice on how to perform piano harmonics, please consult [www.pianoharmonics.com](http://www.pianoharmonics.com).

*marsyas and apollo* was premiered by Jonas Olsson on September 17, 2017 at the Utzon Center in Aalborg, Denmark.

## marsyas and apollo

étude for piano harmonics  
(version for Steinway grand piano model C)

♩ = 44, cantabile

4 sempre legato - make notes  
8 overlap as much as possible

Martin Rane Bauck

8 sounding

(8va bassa)  
*p*

6

11

16

21

9  
8

3  
8

13/4 10/3 11/3 9/2 7/2

3 5 6 3

25

3  
8

2  
8

5  
8

1  
8

3  
8

11/3 10/3 11/3 10/3

sim. 3

ppp

29

3  
8

1  
8

5  
8

6  
8

33

4  
8

martellato!

11/3 13/3 11/3 13/3 11/3 13/3 11/3 11/4 11/5

6 3 5 1

fff possibile

38

11/3 11/4 10/3 13/3 11/3 11/4 11/5 11/3 10/3 13/4 13/3 11/3 11/4 13/4

6 5 3 5 5 3 5

43 6 8 4 8 1 8 3 8 5

11/5 11/4 11/3 13/4 11/3 10/3 11/3 10/3 sim. 3

ppp

47 3 8 2 8 7 8

3 3 3 3

51 7 8 4 8

7/2 5/1 7/2 5/1

p pp

55 2 8 3 8 5 8

5/1 7/2 5/1 7/2 3 5 1

Red.

60 5 8 4 8

5/1 3/1 7/2

Red.