



Inspiring Artistry Repertoire Project

A Piano Magazine subscriber-exclusive digital resource

Claudia Deltregia presents:

Série Brasileira Op. 8, Preludio by Edmundo Villani-Côrtes

History: Background information about the composer's life, accomplishments, and any significant historical background about the piece.

- Villani-Côrtes received a PhD in Music from São Paulo University.
- He was named Best Composer of the year by São Paulo Art Critics Association in 1990, 1995 and 1998 for *Cecília Meireles Cycle*, *Postais Paulistanos* and *Concert for Vibrafone and Orchestra*, respectively. His catalog contains over 200 works.
- He was elected to the Brazilian Music Academy in 2014.
- He became a professor at State University of São Paulo.

Features: Notes on the style and/or genre of the piece.

- The piece is part of a suite with 4 movements: Preludio (Prelude), Dança (dance), Movimento em $\frac{3}{4}$ (movement in $\frac{3}{4}$) and Chôro em Forma de Rondó (choro in Rondo Form)
- It has a free formal structure and it grows in terms of texture and intensity. The pieces of the suite are not linked and it is possible to play them separately.
- Preludio has a melancholic feeling and contains a well defined melody above a 2 measure accompaniment pattern in the left hand.
- There is an academic work (in English) that includes information about this piece: <https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/handle/1794/23958>

Compare: Pieces that are comparable in level and style from the standard repertoire.

- Similar in level to the most challenging pieces from Album für die Jugend, Op.68 by Robert Schumann

Skills: Technical and musical skills that will be developed through this piece.

- Requires work on creating a singing tone. The tempo is *moderato* and the music should be flexible.
- Encourages careful listening
- Develops Romantic technique, using the wrists and being able to play loud chords and big sounds. This is necessary to listen to the layers of the music.
- Be careful to make the left hand pattern regular. Listen to the layers that the pattern creates.