

*A Kalmus Classic Edition*

Erik

**SATIE**

**THREE GYMNOPEDIES**

FOR PIANO

K 02170



## ERIK SATIE

May 17, 1866–July 1, 1925

Erik Satie was an eccentric French composer whose rather carefree lifestyle attracted a group of friends composed primarily of musicians, poets, dancers and artists. His father was a music publisher in Paris, and thus the young Satie studied music from an early age. At the age of 13 he began studying organ with Alexander Guilmant at the Paris Conservatory but shortly thereafter stopped his musical training and began playing piano for various shows and cabarets. Like Debussy, Satie's early works were scorned by music critics because they were written to ridicule standard compositional practices of the day. It was through Debussy's friendship and encouragement that Satie decided to return to music study, and so at the age of 40 Satie began his formal training in composition. Even so, other composers thought Satie uneducated, and his music did not receive serious recognition until after his death. In addition to works for piano, Satie also composed ballets and orchestral and ensemble works.

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to Mademoiselle de Bret  
**GYMNOPIEDIE**  
**I**

ERIK SATIE

**Lent et douloureux**

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo/mood is 'Lent et douloureux'. The score begins with a piano (*pp*) dynamic. The first system (measures 1-5) features a steady bass line of quarter notes and a treble line with chords and a melodic line. The second system (measures 6-10) starts with a box containing the number '6' and includes a dynamic shift to forte (*f*). The third system (measures 11-15) starts with a box containing the number '11' and returns to piano (*pp*). The fourth system (measures 16-20) starts with a box containing the number '16'. The piece concludes with a final chord in the treble clef.