



Stravinsky: *Petrushka*

First Tableau – The Shrovetide Fair

Pedlars' calls (apples, coal, etc.)

A group of drunken revellers passes, dancing.

The Master of Ceremonies entertains the crowd from his booth above

An organ grinder appears in the crowd with a woman dancer

The organ grinder begins to play

The dancer dances beating time on the triangle – the organ grinder continuing to crank with one hand plays the cornet with the other

At the other end of the stage a music box plays another woman dancer dancing around it

Two drummers stepping in front of the little theatre attract the attention of the crowd by their drum rolls

At the front (i.e. from the inside) of the little theatre appears the old Magician

The magic trick

The curtain of the little theatre opens and the crowd sees three puppets: Petrushka, the Moor and the Ballerina

The Magician brings them to life by touching them lightly with his flute.

Petrushka, the Moor and the Ballerina suddenly begin to dance, to the great astonishment of the crowd.

Russkaya – Russian dance

Darkness, the curtain falls.

Second Tableau – Petrushka's room

As the curtain rises the door to Petrushka's room opens suddenly; a foot kicks him on stage; Petrushka falls and the door closes again behind him

Petrushka's curses

The Ballerina enters

The Ballerina leaves

Petrushka's despair

Darkness. Curtain.

Third Tableau – The Moor's room

The Moor dances

Appearance of the Ballerina

Dance of the Ballerina (cornet in hand)

Waltz – the Ballerina and the Moor

Appearance of Petrushka

The fight between the Moor and Petrushka. The Ballerina Faints

The Moor throws Petrushka out.

Darkness. Curtain.

Fourth Tableau – The Shrovetide Fair (toward evening)

The Wet Nurses dance

A peasant enters with a bear; everyone scatters.

The peasant plays the pipe; the bear walks on his hind feet.

The carousel

A revelling merchant and two gypsy women enter. He irresponsibly amuses himself by throwing bank notes to the crowd.

The gypsy women dance. The merchant plays the accordion.

Dance of the coachmen and the grooms.

The wet nurses dance with the coachmen and the grooms.

The mummers

The devil (mummer) induces the crowd to frolic with him

Buffoonery of the mummers (goat and pig)

The mummers and the maskers dance

The rest of the crowd joins in the mummers' dance

The crowd continues to dance without taking notice of the cries coming from the little theatre.

The dance breaks off. Petrushka dashes from the little theatre pursued by the Moor whom the Ballerina tries to restrain

The furious Moor seizes Petrushka and strikes him with his sabre.

Petrushka falls, his head broken.

A crowd forms around Petrushka

He dies, still moaning. A policeman is sent to look for the Magician

The Magician arrives. He picks up Petrushka's corpse, shaking it.

The Magician remains alone on the stage. He drags Petrushka's corpse toward the little theatre

Above the little theatre appears the ghost of Petrushka, menacing, thumbing his nose at the Magician.

The terrified Magician lets the puppet-Petrushka drop from his hands and exits quickly, casting frightened glances over his shoulder.

Curtain

