

Paul Abraham Dukas (October 1, 1865 – May 17, 1935) was a French composer and teacher of classical music. Dukas was born in Paris to a Jewish father and Catholic mother. He studied under Théodore Dubois and Ernest Guiraud at the Conservatoire de Paris, where he became friends with the composer Claude Debussy. After completing his studies Dukas found work as a music critic and orchestrator; he was unusually gifted in orchestration and was one of the most sensitive and insightful critics of the era. Although Dukas wrote a fair amount of music, he was a perfectionist and destroyed many of his pieces out of dissatisfaction with them. Only a few of his compositions remain.

The original music to "La Péri" was written in 1911 by Paul Dukas as a Poème dansé en un tableau ("dance poem in one scene"), his last published work. Although not as well-known as his famous symphonic poem "L'apprenti sorcier", the ballet is widely considered his most mature and skilled piece. The music's style can best be described as a mixture of Romantic tonal harmony and orchestration techniques with Impressionism, and is distinctly French. The ballet itself is preceded by a brilliant fanfare, written in 1912, that employs only the orchestra's brass section, and which is often performed separately.

Dr. Michael Pratt has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Croswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Miklhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

Fanfare pour précéder La Péri

Duration 2:00

Paul Dukas

Arr. by Michael Pratt

Moderately Animated ♩ = 76

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system (measures 1-5) features five parts: Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2, Horn in F, Trombone, and Tuba. The second system (measures 6-11) features six parts: B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., Euph., and Tuba. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B♭, E♭, A♭). The first system is marked *ff* and *f*, while the second system is marked *mf* and *f*. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, accents, and dynamic markings.