

Longy's Divergent Studio 2026

RODRIGO AREDES

Nadia Boulanger at Longy

for piano, voice, trumpet and viola

Score Sample

Instrumentation:

Voice (alto)
Trumpet
Viola
Piano

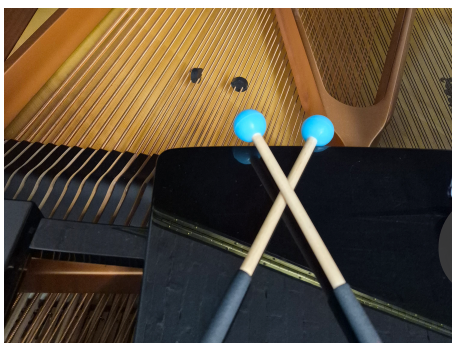
Performance notes:

Players read from the score.

Several technique names are written in rounded-corner rectangles in the score.

Objects to be used inside the piano:

A pair of violin mutes and a mallet:



On how to place the mutes:

C2 string:

Find the node that produces the 3rd harmonic (G3). Place your finger on this point and slowly pull it toward you while continuing to play the C2 key. As you move, higher partials will gradually appear, and the G3 harmonic will become weaker. When the G3 is almost no longer audible, place the mute on that spot and twist it.

Ab1 string:

Place the mute directly on the node that produces the 7th partial (approximately Gb4). Do not twist the mute.

Piano techniques:



Every time a prepared string is played, the notehead in the score is an ornate “x” notehead;



Strike the body of the instrument in the notated rhythm, using hands or a pair of mallets;



Strike the Ab1 mute with a mallet;



Use the sustain pedal to catch the resonance of the short chord played right before

Text:

Nadia began teaching at Longy in November,
Two months after the semester started.

When her teaching was confined to Longy only,
Nadia Boulanger had been overworked

“When I see a young pupil, my first question is
‘Can you live without music?’

If you can live without music, thank the lord and goodbye!”

Program notes:

Based on *Nadia Boulanger: A Life in Music*, this piece is an exaltation of Nadia’s life and teaching. It uses chords from some of her students’ (Elliott Carter, Almeida Prado, Aaron Copland and Marion Bauer) compositions and takes two phrases from that book about *Mademoiselle*’s time at the Longy School of Music. It ends with a quotation from a Nadia Boulanger interview.

The score is transposed.

Length: 1 minute and 40 seconds.

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1 minute and 40 seconds

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Nadia Boulanger at Longy

(2026)

Rodrigo Aredes

(2004)

Text by Léonie Rosenstiel and Nadia Boulanger

Transposed score

Slow, but intense ♩ = 60–66

Alto

Trumpet in Bb

Viola

Piano

A.

Tpt in Bb

Vla

Pno

play with the whistle sounds below the valves

air sound (air sound)

f dim. *al niente*

Seagull effect sul pont. *gliss.*

tap the body of the instrument

f *pp* *pp*

ff *pp* *p* *sf* *sf* *sf*

8¹ *Red.* (catch the resonance) *Sost.*

p *f* *p*

(N) - Na - dia be - gan teach - ing at Lon - gy

tongue stop tap

ord.

hit the body of the instrument with mallets or hands

bow the body of the instrument

f *p* *sf*