

## **INTRODUCTION ET TARENTELLE**

The celebrated and prominent violin virtuosic composer Pablo de Sarasate (10 March 1844 - 20 September 1908), admired for his sweetness and purity of tone, perfect intonation, and a flawless technique that appeared effortless, composed the piece Introduction et Tarentelle. The Introduction and Tarantella, Op. 43, would prove to be his most enduringly popular non-Spanish Dance short work (only the Capriccio basque can boast of being at the same popularity or more). Sarasate also composed a violin and orchestra version on top of the violin piano version, which would probably be composed to fit his schedule of performances.

The Introduction is not one of the more elegant salon-pieces (like the Playera, Op. 23, No. 1, or Spanish Dance, Op. 26 No. 2), but Sarasate clearly intended it more as a flashy virtuoso display-piece than as an ingratiating charmer. The introduction is marked Moderato; the violinist sings a rolling melody over a simple chordal accompaniment that returns to an arch-shaped chromatic gesture which, ultimately, when taken over and elaborated by the violinist, serves to connect and bridge the Introduction to the next movement, the Allegro vivace Tarentelle, which is a flurry of movements up and down the finger board.

<https://www.allmusic.com/composition/introduction-and-tarantella-for-violin-orchestra-op-43-mc0002375094>



