Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune

ClauDE Debussy
(1862-1918)

The evocative, sinuous line of this solo is endlessly fascinating for the performer because of the infinite possibilities for coloring and shading the tone. Work toward molding one long phrase of elegance, subtlety, and beauty. If you need to take a breath in the opening solo, the best place is after the first B in bar 4. Other choices are after the E in bar 3 or after the G in bar 2. After the first four bars of the solo, the flutist must play with greater projection and keen ensemble awareness. In the first bar of 1, the triplet sign on the last beat should be removed. In the second bar of 2, old printings contain an incorrect dotted rhythm on the last beat. The corrected part shown here is based on archival scores in which Debussy made the correction in his own hand.
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