

ABSTRACT

Title of dissertation: PIÈCES DE VIOLE,
TROISIÈME LIVRE (1711)

William James McClain,
Doctor of Musical Arts, 2009

Dissertation directed by: Professor Edward Maclary
School of Music

I was first exposed to the music of Marin Marais while participating in a Doctoral String Literature course at the University of Maryland. I fell in love with both the instrument and the music of Marais. It was fresh, new, free yet elegant and refined. What I enjoyed most . . . the artistic freedom similar to how a Jazz combo might interact, the almost limitless possibilities of elaboration and ornamentation, and the rich colorful harmonies . . . were all staples of the French Baroque tradition. The style, inflection, and nuance from Lute and Vocal traditions can be sensed throughout the instrumental music of French composers.

I remember discovering this music and receiving such pleasure and satisfaction from performing just a small part of this suite. It was not long after that I had the idea of a new edition from which the modern violist could read. My dissertation project is to produce, edit, and present a new performance edition of the *Pièces de Viole Book Three* for the viola da braccio and continuo in a three part recital series. I believe that this

project will open up new possibilities of expression for me and hopefully for modern violists everywhere. I also hope that this project will serve as a significant contribution to the small collection of Baroque literature available to the solo violist. Despite the many challenges I faced I most encouraged in undertaking this project for the modern viola after reading a message from the composer.

It is appropriate once again to advise the public that most of the pieces that constitute the third book can be played on several other instruments, such as the organ, the harpsichord, the violin, the treble viol, the theorbo, the guitar, the flute, the recorder, and the oboe. It will be a question only of knowing how to choose the right pieces for each of these instruments.

Marin Marais

PIÈCES DE VIOLE, TROISIÈME LIVRE (1711)

By

William James McClain

Dissertation submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of the
University of Maryland, College Park, in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Musical Arts
2009

Advisory Committee:

Professor Edward Maclary, Chair
Mr. Daniel Foster
Professor Mark Hill
Professor William Richardson
Dr. Kenneth Slowik

© Copyright by
William James McClain
2009

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	ii
List of Concert Recordings.....	iii

List of Concert Recordings

Dissertation Recital I: Marin Marais 1656-1728

Suite No.4 in D major

1	40. Prélude.....	1:46
2	48. Bourée paysanne.....	1:17
3	45. La Folette.....	0:59
4	43. Courante.....	1:35
5	54. Rondeau.....	2:59
6	42. Allemande.....	2:12
7	52. La Trompette. Menuet.....	2:05
	53. Double	
8	57. La Brillante.....	2:38

Suite No.6 in G minor

9	76. Prélude.....	2:15
10	77. Caprice.....	1:10
11	78. Allemande.....	4:43
	80. Double de l'Allemande	
12	79. Courante.....	1:21
13	81. Sarabande.....	3:30
14	82. Gigue. La Chicane.....	2:09
15	91. Le Moulinet.....	2:42

Suite No.8 in C major

16	108. Prélude.....	1:37
17	109. Caprice.....	1:10
18	110. Allemande.....	4:26
	111. Double	
19	113. Sarabande en rondeau.....	6:01
20	114. Courante.....	2:36
	115. Double	
21	116. Gigue.....	1:30
22	117. Gavotte en rondeau.....	1:57
23	118. Menuet.....	1:55
	119. 2e Menuet	
24	120. Saillie du café.....	2:02
	121. Double	

Dissertation Recital II: Marin Marais 1656-1728

Suite No.5 in Bb major

1	59. Prélude.....	2:18
2	60. Fantaisie.....	1:21
3	65. Sarabande.....	3:57
4	66. Gigue.....	3:39
	(66a.) Double pour le meme	

Suite No.2 in A major

5	14. Prélude.....	3:16
6	15. Allemande.....	5:25
	16. Double	
7	17. Sarabande.....	3:37
8	18. Courante.....	1:24
9	20. Gigue. L' Inconstante.....	2:01
10	21. Fantaisie.....	1:07
11	22. Menuet.....	1:35
	23. 2e Menuet	
12	24. Rondeau.....	1:29

Suite No.7 in G major

13	92. Prélude.....	2:24
14	93. Caprice.....	1:38
15	94. Allemande.....	2:13
16	95. Double.....	2:22
17	98. Courante.....	1:51
18	99. Sarabande grave.....	4:32
19	101. Gigue. La Petite.....	1:37
20	105. La Musette.....	7:59
	106. 2e Musette	
21	107. La Guitare.....	8:03

Dissertation Recital III: Marin Marais 1656-1728

Suite No.1 in A minor

1	11. Prélude.....	3:59
2	1. Fantaisie.....	1:09
3	2. Allemande.....	2:45
4	3. Courante.....	1:51
5	7. Gavotte.....	2:29
6	10. Rondeau.....	1:50
7	11. Prélude.....	1:09
8	13. Grand Ballet.....	4:30

Suite No.3 in F major

9	26. Prélude.....	2:50
10	27. Fantaisie.....	1:10
11	28. Allemande.....	2:15
	29. Double	
12	32. Gavotte. La Badine.....	1:15
13	33. Sarabande.....	3:58
14	34. Gigue.....	1:47
15	37. Rondeau.....	3:07
16	38. Chaconne.....	3:12

Suite No.9 in C minor

17	123. Prélude.....	7:13
	124. Fantaisie	
	125. Double	
	126. Allemande	
18	127. Courante.....	1:49
19	128. Sarabande grave.....	3:45
20	131. Gavotte.....	1:50
21	132. Menuet.....	2:42
	133. 2e Menuet	
22	130. Rondeau.....	3:27
23	129. Gigue.....	2:48