

4. Aeolian Harp

Explanation of Symbols

All of the notes of the "Aeolian Harp" should be pressed down on the keys, without sounding, at the same time being played on the open strings of the piano with the other hand.

"inside" indicates that the notes are to be played near the center of the string, inside the steel bar which runs parallel to the keyboard across the strings.

sw. indicates that the strings should be swept from the lowest to the highest note of the chord given, or if the arpeggio mark is given with a downward arrow, from the top to the bottom note of the chord.

"outside" indicates that the notes are to be played outside this bar, near the tuning pegs.

pizz. indicates the string is to be plucked. Both sweeps and plucks are made with the flesh of the finger unless otherwise indicated.

Except where indicated, the pedal must NEVER BE DOWN while the strings are being swept; as soon as the sweep is made, the pedal should be put down, and held until the time is ready to begin a new sweep, when it must be released.

Henry Cowell
(1923)

Tempo Rubato

The musical score consists of six staves of music in 2/2 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a 2/2 time signature, and a dynamic marking of *p*. It features several chords with upward arrows and the instruction "inside". The second staff continues with chords, some with downward arrows and the instruction "outside", and includes a "Ped." line with an asterisk. The third staff has a "pizz." instruction and another "Ped." line. The fourth staff is marked "(with back of thumb nail)" and features a "sw." instruction and a dynamic marking of *ff*. The fifth staff is marked "(with flesh of finger)" and includes "pizz.", "sw.", "inside", "rit.", and "a tempo" instructions. The sixth staff concludes with "pizz.", "a tempo", and "rit." instructions, ending with a "Ped." line and an asterisk.