

opening lines

l.estoppey
2015

solo piano pour antoine française avec des textes de Dashiell Hammett

1. I haven't anything very exciting to offer you this time,
Vince Richmond said as we shook hands. 'I want you to find a man
- a man who is not a criminal.'

2. I don't know whether Jacob Coplin was short or tall. All of him I ever got a look at was his round head
-naked scalp and wrinkled face, both of them the color...

♩ = 112

mf
Ped. *sempre*

3. Boiling like a coffee pot before we were five miles out of Filmer,
the automobile stage carried me south into the shimmering heat,
blinding sunlight, and bitter...

3

7

4. Margaret Tharp habitually passed from slumber to clear-eyed
liveliness without intermediate languor. This morning nothing
was unusual in her awakening save... ♩ = 90 (♩³ = ♩)

10

* Ped. *

5. I had just decided in favor of a pounded rump steak
with mushrooms when I heard myself being paged...

13

garder la main droite

x3 environ

fade out pour main gauche seulement

fade in pour main gauche seulement

♩ = 112

16 *x3* *p* *x3* *x4 environ*

6. I found Paddy the Mex in Jean Larrouy's dive.
Paddy – an amiable con man who looked like
the King of Spain – showed me his big teeth...

7. 'Reno Sharkey, wasn't it?' Dinah Brand asked me
as I put the phone down.
'Yeah. He thought I'd like to hear about Poisonville...'

19 *x4 environ* *x3* *x10 -12* *sf*

23 *x3 environ* *8^{va}* *mp* *3* *5:6* *5:6*

8. When the boy was six months old, Paulette Key acknowledged
that her hopes and efforts had been futile...

24 *(8)* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *5:6* *x3 environ* *5:6* *

26 *x7 - 10* *étouffer la corde en cherchant / variant les harmoniques* *f*

9. I was experiencing, as one will, difficulty with the
eighth line of a rondeau, when Papa's firm and not to
be forgotten tread sounded outside my door.

27 *x5* *f* *mp* *3* *3* *mp* *Led.*

29

10. It was a diamond, all right, sparkling in
 the grass half a dozen feet from the blue brick wall.
 It was small –not more than a quarter of a carat – and unmounted.

P. 33

P. 36

P. 39

P. 43

P. 47

P. 53

4

♩ = 160

57

P.

mêmes notes que précédemment

58

P.

mêmes notes et pédale que précédemment

11. Joe Shupe stood in the door – way of the square-faced office building – his body tilted slantwise so that one thin shoulder, lodged against the grey stone, helped his legs hold him...

59

P.

mêmes notes et pédale que précédemment

60

P.

mêmes notes et pédale que précédemment

à la seconde reprise: 12. 'The trouble with this country,' Old Man Covey unexpectedly exploded, emphasizing his words with repeated beats of a gnarled forefinger on the newspaper he had been reading...

61

♩ = 100

P.

mf

mf senza ped.

65

P.

13. Owen Stack turned from the stove as the door of his cabin opened to admit 'Rip' Yust, and with the hand that did not hold the coffee-pot...

68

P.

71

P.

74

P.

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P.

81

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P.

14. Eric Collinson came into my office. There was too much pink in his eyes and not any in his skin. He sat down and said :...

88

P.