



# *Prelude*

*Op. 28 N° 7*

Choreography

Malkovsky

Music

Chopin

**PRELUDE CHOPIN**  
**Op. 28 N°7 in A major**

***HISTORICAL BACKGROUND***

This short composition was premiered as part of Malkovsky's last solo on stage at the Salle Gaveau in Paris on June 18, 1948. It was one in a set of three preludes. Malkovsky performed the 20th Prelude first, then the 7th and finally the 14th. Madame Camille Frecheville was the pianist-accompanist.

***COSTUME***

A long hand-woven white silk tunic.

***MESSAGE OF THE DANCE***

The three preludes share the theme of suffering.

No 20: remembrance after death: "on a dead friend's tomb"

No 7: silent grief

No 14: the soul's tormented wanderings

For Prelude No 7, Malkovsky used to quote a verse by Rabindranath Tagore, from "The Gardener of Love"

*"I picked thy flower, O world, and its thorn wounded me.  
In the darkness of night, nought but pain endures".*

The 16 bars are a dance of pain, with no echo. It is not the suffering of any specific person, but rather grief itself. The answer lies within ourselves.

## *MUSIC*

The composition only contains 16 bars. Each sequence of movements starts with a musical anacrusis.

## *PHOTOGRAPHS*

Lydia, ca. 1932, by an unknown photographer and Suzanne Bodak by Bernard Muller in 1998.

## *TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS*

### **Bars**

1 to 8: crescendo in attitudes, a gaze initiates each sequence.

9: a break, the energy is sustained as the upper body bends forward.

12: the movement culminates in an imploring attitude. The arms should be guided down by relaxing the muscles along the back while breathing out slowly.

13: verticality is reconstructed, grief has been accepted.