

Interlude 3: Marie and Irene Curie

Spoken by BASSOON

Part I: Marie Curie was a pioneering physicist and chemist who conducted groundbreaking research on radioactivity. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the first person to win it twice, in two scientific fields. She co-won her first Nobel Prize with her husband, Pierre Curie, making them the first married couple to win. She discovered the elements polonium and radium and founded the Curie Institute in Paris and Warsaw. She said: "I was taught that the way of progress was neither swift nor easy."

Part II: Irène Curie, a home-schooled student, worked as a nurse radiographer with her mother Marie during World War I. She taught Frédéric Joliot, who later became her husband and research partner. They discovered the positron and neutron and won a Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1935 for their work in artificial radiation. Irène promoted women's education and had notable scientist children. She said: "Without the love of research, mere knowledge and intelligence cannot make a scientist."

S ♩ = 50 straight
Thoughtfully

PART I
 (Spoken by Bassoon)

263

Ob. *mp* *mf* *mp* *mp*

Cl. *mp* *mf* *mp* *mp*

Bsn.

PART II
 (Spoken by Bassoon)

270

Ob. *mf* *mp* *mf* *p*

Cl. *mf* *mp* *mf* *p*

Bsn.

III. Atomic Waltz

T ♩ = 60
Dancing

278

Ob. *mp*

Cl. *mp* *p*

285

Ob. *p* *mp* *mf*

Cl. *mp* *mf*

291 *rit.*

Ob. *p*

Cl. *p*

U *a tempo*
Focussed

297

Ob. *mp* *p* *mp*

Cl. *mp* *p* *mp*