Composed in 1890, Clair de Lune is now considered one of the most important pieces of the Impressionist period. It remains a popular and beloved part of the piano repertoire.

Although the tempo marking is Andante, it is often played at a tempo better described as Adagio or even Lento. However, the pianist usually plays it in rubato, varying the tempo as the mood of the piece impresses.

For saxophone quartet, I recommend a starting tempo of approximately 50, varying as much as the quartet deems appropriate. However, accelerating the tempo too much will make the arpeggios beginning at measure 27 more difficult. In order to accommodate the ranges of the four saxophones, I have divided the arpeggios between the horns. Some practice will be needed to make them flow from one instrument to another well enough to sound smooth to the audience.

I hope you will enjoy playing my arrangement of Clair de Lune.

Bruce Evans

28 August 2019
Tenor Sax

Clair de Lune

Claude Debussy
Arr. Bruce Evans

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