

Theme and Six Variations

for pianoforte

Anthony Skilbeck

Each variation takes selected material from the theme and its harmony
in the order of occurrence in bars one to twelve.

Intervals which figure prominently, in both melody and chords are those of the minor third
(converted to a major third in Variation Five), the minor and major seventh and the tritone.

The work commences in the harmonic area of A minor and concludes with a chord of
Eb major (also with a Gb included). The intervallic difference between these chords
is a tritone, which is prominent in my harmonic language.

Theme and Six Variations

♩ = 64 Duration ca. 6'

for piano

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*inquieto**

1 *mp* *p* *sim.* *senza ped.*

5 *p* *mp* *mp espress.*

9 *rit.*

Var. 1
13 ♩ = 84 *f* *Ped.*

18 *f* *rilievo* *f* *Ped.*

* Found in Prokofiev's "Visions Fugitives" op.22, no. XV

24

Ped. Ped.

28

Ped.

32 *mf*

f

37

mp
mf
f

(senza ped.)

40

ff
f

Ped.

43

f
ff

Ped.

Very percussive,
but receiving
full value.

Var. 2 ♩ = 70 pochissimo rubato

47 *mp*
inquieto
p legato senza ped.
espress.

52

56 *rit.* *a tempo*
p legato
mp

61 *mp* *rit.*

Var. 3 ♩ = 64

67 *p piacevole*
8va-1
(loco)
Ped.

71

pp m.d. 3 5

mp *f*

Red.

m.s.

76

f *ff* *f* *mf* *mp*

quasi fanfara

m.d. 4-3 4 2 2 3 4 4 3-5 4 1 2

1 3 4 5 1-2 2-5

Red.

80

p *mp* *p* *p piacevole*

rit. *a tempo*

5 3 3 3 5 4-5 1 2 3 1 3

1 3 3 1 2 3 1 3

mf *(senza ped.)*

85

rit.

4-5 4 3-5 1-5

1 2 1 2 1 2 3 1 1 2 3 1 5 5-3

Red.

> Moderately percussive and short.

Var. 4 ♩ = 86

con fuoco

89

ff

Ped.

93

Ped.

97

p

ff

Ped.

102

f

ff

Ped.

Ped.

poco a poco accelerando

106

f

sempre accel.

111

Musical score for measures 111-114. The piece is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and 3/4 time. The right hand features a complex melodic line with triplets and sixteenth-note patterns. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with eighth notes and chords. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5. A '-4' marking is present in the bass line.

Var. 5 ♩ = 64

115

Musical score for measures 115-121. Measure 115 begins with a 7-measure rest. The tempo is marked *mp*. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a '-4' marking. Pedal points are indicated with 'Ped.' below the staff. A box contains the text: *piangevole e introspektivamente* / *C# like a bell tolling in the distance*. A *p* dynamic marking is present in the bass line, followed by the instruction *una corda*.

poco rit.

a tempo

122

Musical score for measures 122-128. The tempo changes from *poco rit.* to *a tempo*. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a '-4' marking. Pedal points are indicated with 'Ped.' below the staff. A *p* dynamic marking is present in the bass line.

a tempo

8^{va}

poco rit.

129

Musical score for measures 129-135. The tempo changes from *poco rit.* to *a tempo*. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a '-4' marking. Pedal points are indicated with 'Ped.' below the staff. A *p* dynamic marking is present in the bass line.

(8)

136

Musical score for measures 136-142. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a '-4' marking. Pedal points are indicated with 'Ped.' below the staff. A *mp* dynamic marking is present in the bass line. The tempo is marked *loco*. The word *espress.* is written above the right hand. The number '6' is written below the right hand in four places.

140 *rit.* *a tempo*
mp
pp
p *sempre u.c.* *mp*
Ped.

145 *mp* *rit.*
mp

Var. 6 ♩ = 64
 152 *f* *pesante* *loco* *m.s.* *E* *tr*
tre corda *8^{vb}* *Ped.*

157 *B A C H* *B A C H* *B A*
5 2 *5 2* *1 2 1* *5* *5*
5 *5* *2* *3* *3*

160

C H m.d. m.s.

Ped.

162

f

Ped.

Ped.

165

ff f (loco)

8^{vb} Ped. Ped.

169

rall. ff sff

loco m.s. 5

8^{vb} Ped. Ped.