

Jonathan Parry

Sonata for Piano
(2021)

Note:

This Sonata is in one continuous movement lasting approximately 26 minutes.

Like my previous Sonata it may be thought of as an improvisation - a free association of characterful ideas - exploring a very well-defined harmonic and melodic space. All the material is derived from the 2 harmonies heard on the opening page: each has 5 notes and they are related (one is an inversion of the other).

(A jazz musician might characterise them as Major 7th chords with either a b6 or #9 extension, but they can be viewed in many different ways.)

The Sonata is presented as 'mix' of character pieces (possibly similar to the music of Robert Schumann).

The wide range of 'styles' present and their juxtaposition seems slightly surreal. It may help the performer to conceive of the piece as a dream...concentrating on the intoxication of the moment rather than on trying to discern any overall structure.

That said, the Sonata can be thought of as dividing into 8 sections (with an Optional Cadenza):

1. Figures 1 to 6 : Exposition (presentation of the 2 harmonies and initial ideas)
2. Figures 7 to 12 : Fast energetic group of 5 character pieces
3. Figures 13 to 17 : Slow section
4. Figures 18 to 20: Interlude: Gigue / Slow section / Gigue in 2/4
5. Figures 21 to 27: Jazz influenced group of pieces
6. Figure 28: 'Mozartian' Ostinato (with flashbacks)
7. Figures 29 to 30: Tremolo 'alarm' and 'Minuet'
- Optional Cadenza (to be composed by the performer using a consistent harmonic language)
8. Figures 31 to 33: Recapitulation

The dream-like, other-worldly nature of the music is something that I encouraged and it seems to emanate from the intervals present - a predominance of 3rds/6ths, some minor 2nds/major 7ths and 4ths/5ths but *no major 2nds/minor 7ths and no tritones.*

It's a slightly strange, edgy, energised environment without the familiar whole tone step present in most music. I was looking for a more gritty sound than my previous Sonata after a comment by my friend and former tutor Peter Hill: *"I'd be interested to see how you'd write something more 'dense', more contrapuntal, even nastier - but if that's not in your nature - don't!"*

It seems my nature wouldn't allow anything 'nasty' for too long - at times there is a deliberate emphasis on dissonant intervals eg. the 'barking dogs' at figure 9 - but these barks are then softened with chords built on 3rds. Occasionally the music becomes contrapuntal and a little complex - but then there is the contrast of very simple harmonious tonal ideas, for example, the tune at fig. 15 and the 'Mozartian' ostinato at figure 28.

There are deliberate allusions to A.I. music. Having written a 'Translator' plug in for the Sibelius score writing programme I was familiar with the sound of my harmonic style when it is generated by a computer. So the start of page 2 (with its wide alternating intervals) and episodes like the bursts of 32nd notes in Figure 7, the strange extrapolation of the giges, and the weird rising progression at bar 465 figure 23 are deliberate evocations of that slightly mechanistic 'artificial' computer world. But the performance of the Sonata should not be mechanical.

I should perhaps mention some composers who drift into view:

Luciano Berio seems to be present occasionally (for example at bar 209)

Franz Liszt appears at bar 232 (- I had fallen asleep following YouTube scores and awoke during his Mephisto waltz just as it was playing my Sonata's harmony so felt it deserved a reference)

Alexander Scriabin's Opus 11 Prelude in D $\flat$ at figure 17

Johann Sebastian Bach (sort of) in the gigue at figure 18
and a deliberate moment of Jean Barraqué's Sonata at bar 410.

(Perhaps there are others but these were the only conscious allusions.)

Sonata for piano

(2021)

Jonathan Parry

1 Freely but with the feel of a 4/4 phrase at c. ♩=72

Piano

p pp LH

Ped.

Pno.

sim. RH

Ped.

Pno.

rit. ♩=84 *pp*

Ped.

Pno.

poco rit. *mp f*

Ped.

If Ab not available
play soft A♯

9 2 $\text{♩} = 100$

Pno.

p *mp*

Ped. _____

13 *poco rit.*

Pno.

Ped. _____

16 3 $\text{♩} = 80$

Pno.

p L R R L L R R L sim.

Ped. _____

19

Pno.

1st time soft and calm,
2nd time more expressive

Ped. _____

21

Pno.

Ped. _____

23

Pno.

sim.

Ped. _____

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system covers measures 1 through 10, and the second system covers measures 11 through 20. The score is written for a piano (Pno.) and a vocal part (V.). The piano part is in the bass clef, and the vocal part is in the treble clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 11/8. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. Pedal points are indicated by 'Ped.' with a line underneath. The first system ends with a repeat sign, and the second system begins with a first ending bracket labeled '1.'.

27

Pno.

Ped. _____

Ped. _____

2.

pp

p

pp

Ped. _____

Ped. _____

added notes quieter at first

Musical score for Piano (Pno.). The score is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) and includes a grand staff bracket. The tempo is marked 10/8. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score begins with a measure rest (29) and continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign. Pedal markings (Ped.) are present below the bass staff, indicating sustained pedal points.

32 **4** ♩.=80 **poco accel.** - - - - - **poco rit.** - - - - -

Pno. *p* *mp*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

rit.

Pno.

40 (8)

Ped.

♩.=78

rit.

Pno.

44 (8)

p

Ped.

5

♩.=66

Lean on first chord

sim.

Pno.

46

mf *p* *mf* *p*

Ped.

50

6

♩.=90

Freely, recit.

Pno.

p *pp* *pp*

Ped.

55

♩.=84

Pno.

mf *pp* *mf*

Ped.

59 **7** RECIT.

Pno.

61 $\text{♩} = 92$ **A tempo** Impatient... as if the keyboard were scalding hot

Pno.

63

Pno.

65

Pno.

66

Pno.

68 lyrical

Pno.

Ped. Ped. Ped.

71

Pno.

Ped.

72 **A tempo**

Pno.

mf

73

Pno.

74

Pno.

75

Pno.

76

Pno.

78 **Pno.** *f*

81 **Pno.**

84 **Pno.** *mp* *mf*

87 **Pno.** *poco rit.*

90 **Pno.** $\text{♩} = 48$ *molto accel.* *pp*

Red. _____

95 **Pno.**

99 $\text{♩} = 84$ **poco accel.**

Pno. *mp*

Ped.

103

Pno.

8va

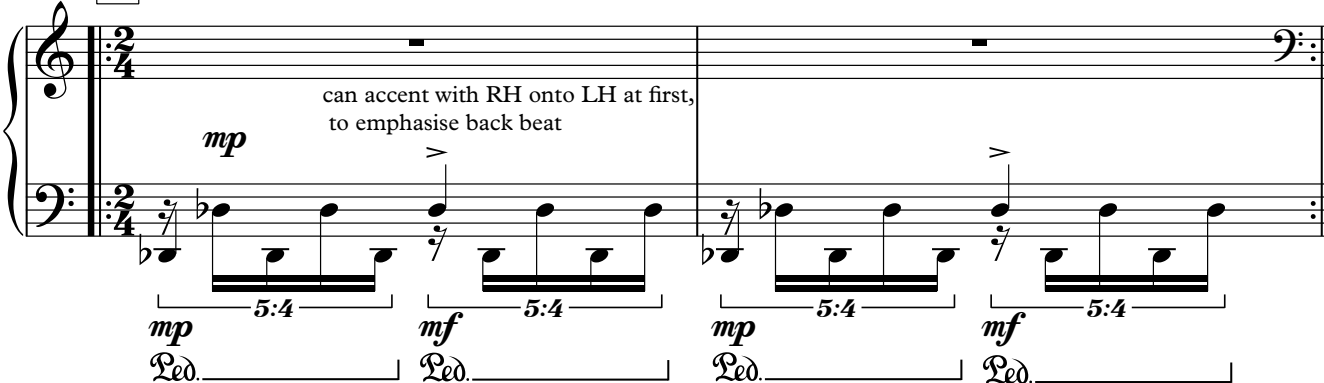
5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

1 2

4 4

106 **8** Like a motor running ()
♩=84

Pno. *mp* can accent with RH onto LH at first, to emphasise back beat



mp *mf* *mp* *mf*

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

108

Pno.

5:4

5:4

mp

Ped.

5:4

5:4

Ped.

110

Pno.

5:4

Ped.

112

Pno.

5:4

Ped.

116

Pno.

5:4

Ped.

120

Pno.

5:4

Ped.

123

Pno.

5:4

mf

Ped.

127

Pno.

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

Ped.

130

Pno.

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

Ped.

134

Pno.

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

Ped.

137

Pno.

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

Ped.

140

Pno.

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

Ped.

Pno.

143

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

8va

Ped.

Pno.

146

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

8va

Ped.

Pno.

149

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

8va

Ped.

Pno.

152

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

8va

Ped.

155

Pno.

mp

f

8^{va}

5:4

Ped.

158

Pno.

5:4

Ped.

161 (8)

Pno.

5:4

Ped.

164

Pno.

5:4

poco rit.

Ped.

ad lib

15

Pno.

168 - - - - - 5:4 5:4 ♩=126

Ped. Ped.

Pno.

174 ♩=126 **9** 'The barking dogs' ♩=100

f *f* Ped.

Pno.

176 ♩=84

ff *mp* *mf* Ped.

Ad. Lib.

Pno.

179 **10** Playful, erratic, unpredictable ♩=76

ff *mp* Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Pno.

184 ♩=76

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. *mf*

Pno.

187 $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = 76$

mf

Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped.

Pno.

191 $\text{♩} = 60$ $8va$ $8va$ $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = 84$ $\text{♩} = 76$

_____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped.

Pno.

195 $\text{♩} = 60$ $8va$ $8va$

_____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped.

Pno.

197 $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = 76$

Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped.

♩=76 ♩=60

200

Pno.

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

203

Pno.

Ped.

206

Pno.

209 ♩=100 L.B.

Pno.

pp ppp

simplified representation of rhythm - follow upper line

p

Pno.

mf *f*

Pno.

Ped.

Pno.

Pno.

f *poco rit.*

Pno.

f *mp* **Big!**

Pno.

f *Ped.*

226 $\text{♩} = 156$ 19

Pno. *ff*

8vb Ped.

228

Pno. *mp*

mf Ped.

230

Pno.

Ped.

232

Pno. *ff*

Ped.

poco rit. *A tempo*

234

Pno. *p* *pp*

Ped.

Pno.

236

mf

f

Ped.

Pno.

238

F.L.

f

Ped.

Pno.

240

Ped.

Pno.

242

Ped.

Pno.

244

Ped.

246

Pno.

Ped.

248

Pno.

(pp 2nd time)

1st time only

12

$\text{♩} = 72$

sf

2nd time only

3

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

250

Pno.

mf

p

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

mf

p

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

253

Pno.

p

f

mf

p

3

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

256

Pno.

1.

3

p

Ped.

259 2.

Pno.

Ped.

rit. ---

262 Slower

Pno.

pp

Ped.

264 $\text{♩} = 84$

Pno.

pp

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

mf

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

266

Pno.

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

Ped. Ped.

rit. ---

8^{va}

267

Pno.

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4

Ped.

with an inscrutable intensity (imagine ♩ drumming behind it)

Pno.

269

pp

mf *p* *mf*

Pno.

273

2nd time only

p *ff* *p* *mf* *f*

Pno.

276

cresc 2nd time only

mf *p* *f*

1st time only

f

Ped.

Pno.

279

ff *ff*

Ped.

Pno.

283

ff *ff*

Ped.

Voice 1 2nd time only make sure internal chords
stay in rhythmic groove

24

Pno.

286

pp

mf

Ped.

290

Ped.

Very free, Declamatory,
improvisational

$\text{♩} = 60$

$\text{♩} = 100$ (As previously but can interpret differently)

Pno.

294

mf

p

pp

p

Ped.

$\text{♩} = 66$

$\text{♩} = 140$

accel.

14

RECIT.

Pno.

298

ppp

p

mp

pp

Ped.

accel.

Pno.

302

$\text{♩} = 132$

$\text{♩} = 140$

312 ♩=100

Pno.

pp *mf* *ppp*

Vcllo

p

316 **15** ♩=76 Simply, without affectation

Pno.

p Ped. *p*

Duet

The musical score for measures 316-321 is as follows:

- Measure 316:** Piano part has a whole rest in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3.
- Measure 317:** Piano part has a whole rest in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3.
- Measure 318:** Piano part has a whole rest in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3.
- Measure 319:** Piano part has a whole rest in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3. Voice part enters with a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3.
- Measure 320:** Piano part has a whole rest in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3. Voice part has a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3.
- Measure 321:** Piano part has a whole rest in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3. Voice part has a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the treble and a half-note chord (F4, A3) in the bass. Pedal point on F3.

Musical score for Piano (Pno.). The score is written for a grand piano, with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The score begins with a measure number of 328. The first staff is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The second staff is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The score includes various musical notations, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The score is divided into measures by bar lines. The score is written in a standard musical notation style.

Pno.

334

poco rit.

mf

p

p

Ped. _____

Pno.

340

16 ♩=84 *poco accel.*

mp

pp

Ped. _____

Pno.

345

♩=90

mp

pp

Ped. _____

Pno.

350

Ped. _____

Pno.

355

17 A.S.

Ped. _____

rit.

27

Pno.

359

1.

Ped.

18

♩. = 125

J.S.B.

Pno.

363

2.

p

Pno.

366

Pno.

369 (non-legato, same phrasing as when played by 2 hands)

Pno.

372

Pno.

375

mf

378

Pno.

Measures 378-380. The right hand plays a complex melodic line with many accidentals, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 380 ends with a repeat sign.

381

Pno.

Measures 381-383. Measure 381 starts with a repeat sign. The right hand continues the melodic line, and the left hand has a more active role with some triplets. Measure 383 ends with a repeat sign.

384

Pno.

Measures 384-386. The right hand plays a melodic line with many accidentals, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 386 ends with a repeat sign.

387 1.

Pno.

Measures 387-389. Measure 387 starts with a first ending bracket. The right hand plays a melodic line, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 389 ends with a repeat sign.

390 2.

Pno.

Measures 390-392. Measure 390 starts with a second ending bracket. The right hand plays a melodic line, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 392 ends with a repeat sign.

393

Pno.

Measures 393-395. Measure 393 starts with a first ending bracket. The right hand plays a melodic line, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 395 ends with a repeat sign.

396

Pno.

p

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

399

Pno.

Ped. Ped. Ped.

402

rall.

Pno.

mp

Ped. Ped. Ped.

405

19 ♩ = 80

Pno.

p

pp

p

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

408

Pno.

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

410 J.B.

Pno.

Ped. Ped.

411

Pno.

Ped.

412

Pno.

Ped. Ped. Ped.

413

Pno.

Ped. Ped.

414

Pno.

Ped. Ped. Ped.

Pno.

416 *pp* *mf* *pp*

Ped. Ped. Ped.

Pno.

418 **20** ♩=63 *mp* *p*

Pno.

421

Pno.

422

Pno.

423

424

Pno.



425

Turning Sour

Pno.



427

Pno.

mf



429

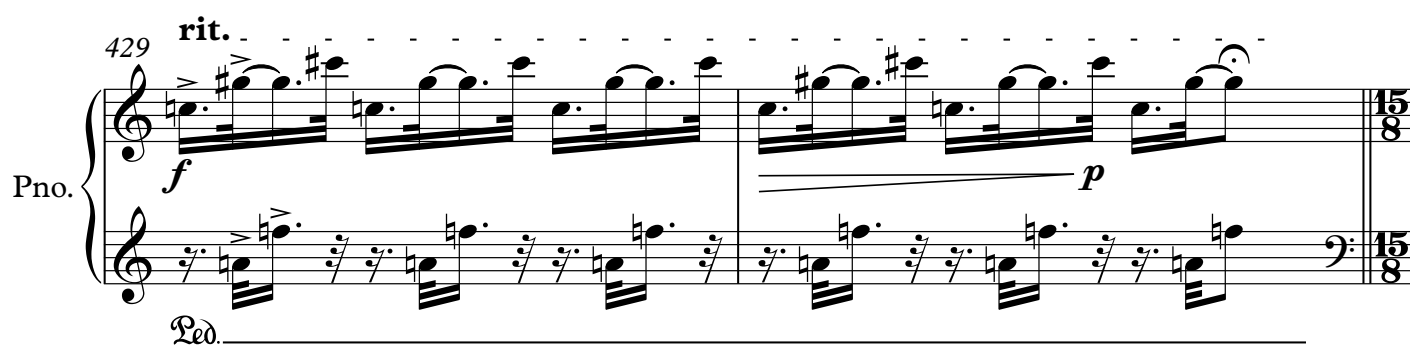
rit.

f

p

Ped.

Pno.



431

$\text{♩} = 120$

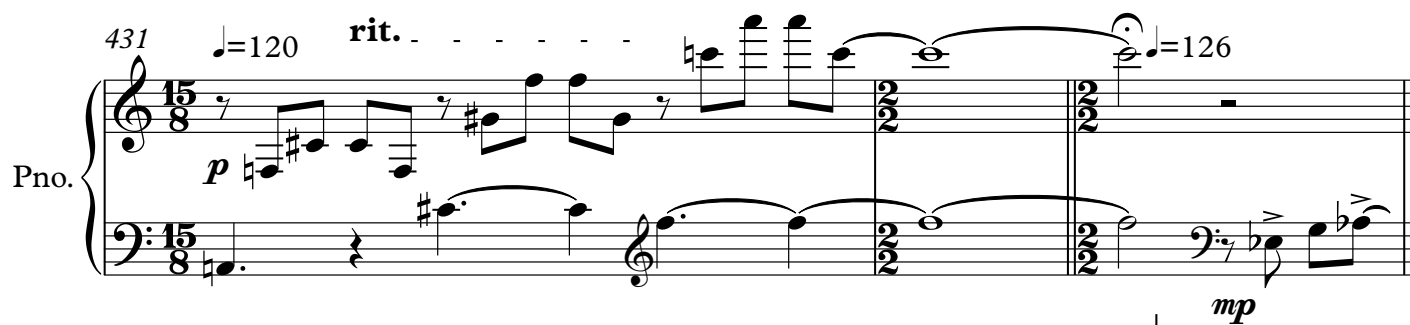
rit.

$\text{♩} = 126$

p

mp

Pno.



21 Freely, in jazz style.
with implied back-beat

434 *pp* $\text{♩} = 135$

Pno.

mp

Red.

438 *pp*

Pno.

441 *mp*

Pno.

mp

444 *mp*

Pno.

Red.

mp

447 *mp*

Pno.

mp

450 **22** $\text{♩} = 200$

Pno.

$\text{♩} = 120$ $\text{♩} = 200$

p *ppp* *p*

Ped. _____

458 **poco rit.** $\text{♩} = 100$ **poco accel.**

Pno.

pp

Ped. _____

463 **rit.** **23** $\text{♩} = 72$ $\text{♩} = 92$ **accel.**

Pno.

pp

lightly pedalled

Ped. _____

467 $\text{♩} = 90$ $\text{♩} = 100$ **accel.** $\text{♩} = 132$

Pno.

p

Ped. _____

470 $\text{♩} = 144$ $\text{♩} = 156$ **rit.**

Pno.

mf

Ped. _____ Ped. _____

474 **24** ♩=84

Pno. *pp*

p

35

Pno.

477

5

5

5

5

5

mp

rit.

25

63

Expressive

mp

480

Pno.

p

Ped.

Pno.

Ped.

Pno.

487 *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

Ped. _____

Pno.

489 *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

Ped. _____

Pno.

492 *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Ped. _____

26

Swung

Pno.

496 *p* *p* *p* *p*

Ped. _____

Pno.

500 *p* *p* *p* *p*

Ped. _____

Pno. (8) Long 27 ♩=84

503 504

mp *pp*

Pno. **molto rit.** ♩=80 *mp*

505 506 507

ppp *pp*

Pno. 508

508 509 510

ppp *pp*

Pno. 511

511 512 513

ppp *pp*

Pno. 514

514 515 516

ppp *pp*

Pno. 517

517 518 519

ppp *pp*

520

Pno.

Ped. 5 5 5 5 5 5

523

Pno.

Ped. 5 5 5 5 5 5

526

Pno.

Ped. 5 5 5 5 5 5

529

Pno.

Ped. 5 5 5 5 5 5

532

Pno.

Ped. 5 5 5 5 5 5

535

Pno.

5

5

5

5

5

5

Ped.

541

Pno.

547

Pno. *p*

Right hand

5

5

5

5

550 **28** ♩=78 Calm, but ruffled by flashbacks

Pno.

p *mp*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Pno.

mp *pp* *pp* *mp* *p* *mf*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Pno.

mp *sf* *mf*

p *p*

Ped. Ped.

Pno.

pp

Ped. Ped.

Pno.

mp *mp* *pp*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Pno.

566

mp

pp

1st time only

Pno.

568

Pno.

570

1.

sf

pp

sf pp sf pp mp pp sf pp

f

Pno.

572

mp

ff

pp

Ped. _____

Pno.

574

2.

3

3

3

3

Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____ Ped. _____

576

Pno.

mf

pp

579

Pno.

mf

pp

582

Pno.

pp

mp

pp

586

Pno.

mp

rit.

589

Pno.

mf

p

p

mf

♩=84

Like a personal alarm gradually getting louder, but not too harsh

43

593 **29**

Pno.

pp

$A\flat\text{maj}7/E$

$C\text{maj}7/A\flat$

Ped.

595

Pno.

LH

RH

$E\text{maj}7(\sharp 9)$

Ped.

597

Pno.

$E\text{maj}7/C$

Ped.

599

Pno.

$A\text{maj}7(\sharp 9)$

$A\text{maj}7/F$

Ped.

601

Pno.

$D\flat\text{maj}7/A$

Ped.

603 $F\text{maj}7/D\flat$ 8^{va}

Pno.

Ped.

605 8^{va} $D\flat\text{maj}7(\#9)$ $F\text{maj}7(\#9)$

Pno.

Ped.

607

Pno.

Ped.

610

Pno.

Ped.

613 $A\text{maj}7/F$ $F\text{maj}7/D\flat$

Pno.

Ped.

615

Pno.

$\frac{3}{4}$

30 $\text{♩} = 110$

Pno.

618 *pp*

Pno.

621

Pno.

With more character, ad lib.
(optional Pedal)

624 *p*

Pno.

627 *mp* *sf* *pp* *mp* *sf*

Pno.

630

633

Pno.

poco rit.

637

Pno.

640

Optional Cadenza

$\text{♩} = 110$

Pno.

642

Pno.

643

Pno.

644

Pno.

646 **31** $\text{♩} = 100$

Pno.

pp *mp*

Ped.

650 **32** $\text{♩} = 80$

Pno.

p

Ped.

654

Pno.

Ped.

657

Pno.

1st time soft and calm,
2nd time more expressive

Ped.

659

Pno.

Ped.

661

Pno.

Ped. _____

663

Pno.

Ped. _____

664

Pno.

Ped. _____

pp *p* *pp*

added notes quieter at first

666

Pno.

p

Ped. _____

poco accel. *rit.*

669

33

Pno.

p *mp*

Ped. _____

rit.

49

Pno.

673

p

Ped.

34

Pno.

675

pp

sim.

Ped.

$\text{♩} = 84$

Pno.

677

rit.

pp

Ped.

poco rit.

Pno.

680

$\text{♩} = 60$
Lean on first chord

mf *p* *mf* *p*

If A $\flat$ not available
play soft A $\sharp$

Ped.

Pno.

684

rit.

f *p* *mf* *p* *pp*

Ped.