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Title

Fantasia

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Author

Batty, James

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Fantasia

James Batty

Fantasia is a series of free variations over a ground bass. It explores the tensions between standard Western equal-tempered tuning and the more natural system of just intonation. The piece is effectively in C major, and each variation introduces one more note (along the lines of Ligeti's *Musica Ricercata*), gradually getting more and more “out of tune” with just intonation, starting with just a C and progressing to the most dissonant F# via hints of Romanticism and early jazz.

Fantasia

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Lento (tempo rubato).

press keys silently P3

f

p

Ped.

This system contains measures 1 through 6. The music is in 4/4 time. Measures 1-4 feature a series of chords in the right hand, mostly sustained, with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The left hand plays a single note (F3) in measures 1-4, with the instruction 'press keys silently'. In measures 5 and 6, the right hand plays chords with a piano (*p*) dynamic, and the left hand plays a descending line. A pedal point is indicated in measure 5.

freely, like an improvisation

mp

Ped. sim.

8vb

This system contains measures 7 through 10. Measure 7 has a mezzo-forte (*mp*) dynamic. Measures 8-10 feature a series of chords in the right hand, mostly sustained, with a mezzo-forte (*mp*) dynamic. The left hand plays a descending line. A pedal point is indicated in measure 8. The instruction 'freely, like an improvisation' is written above the staff. The instruction '8vb' is written below the staff in measures 7, 8, and 9.

mf dim.

(loco)

mf

8vb

This system contains measures 11 through 12. Measure 11 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measure 12 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The right hand plays a series of chords in measure 11, and a series of chords in measure 12. The left hand plays a descending line. A pedal point is indicated in measure 11. The instruction '8vb' is written below the staff in measures 11 and 12.

mp

mp

8vb

This system contains measures 13 through 16. Measures 13-14 feature a series of chords in the right hand, mostly sustained, with a mezzo-forte (*mp*) dynamic. The left hand plays a descending line. A pedal point is indicated in measure 13. Measures 15-16 feature a series of chords in the right hand, mostly sustained, with a mezzo-forte (*mp*) dynamic. The left hand plays a descending line. A pedal point is indicated in measure 15. The instruction '8vb' is written below the staff in measures 13, 14, and 15.

17

3

3

3

3

8va

mf

8vb

8vb

8vb

21

mp

espress.

3

8vb

8vb

24

Poco più mosso, sempre rubato.

mf poco a poco cresc.

8vb

27

3

3

3

3

lazy blues feel

8vb

8vb

8vb

30

3

7

8vb

8vb

8vb

33

f

3

3

8vb

8vb

Detailed description: This is a musical score for piano, spanning measures 17 to 33. The score is written for both hands on a grand staff. Measures 17-20 feature a series of triplets in the right hand, with the left hand providing harmonic support. Measure 21 introduces a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic and a more melodic line in the right hand. Measures 24-27 show a gradual increase in dynamics (mf poco a poco cresc.) and a change in tempo/mood indicated by the instruction 'Poco più mosso, sempre rubato.' and 'lazy blues feel'. Measures 30-33 feature a forte (f) dynamic and a more complex, rhythmic texture with triplets and a 7-measure rest in the right hand. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings.

36

8^{va}

3 3

3 5 5 5

38

8^{vb}

6 6 6 6 6 6

6 6 6 6

8^{vb} 8^{vb}

Più mosso, appassionato.

40

8^{va}

6 6 6 6

ff

8^{vb}

42

8^{va}

3 3 3 3

8^{vb} 8^{vb}

(white-note clusters as written)

44

8^{va} 8^{va} 8^{va}

6 3

ff sempre sf sf sf sf sf

8^{vb} 8^{vb} 8^{vb}

48

8^{vb} 8^{va}

52

rall. al fine

molto dim.

8^{vb} 8^{va}

56

mp sempre dim.

ppp

8^{vb} 8^{va}