

להלך בצל ענקים

For Piano

WALK IN THE
SHADOW OF
GIANTS
2019

WALK IN THE SHADOW OF GIANTS

The title of the my composition is loosely related to the existing latin expression 'standing on the shoulders of giants', ("***nanos gigantum humeris insidentes***") which means literally discovering truth by building on previous discoveries. However, I chose my own alternative title introducing a slight, distant deviation by using a movement imagery, as I had in my mind a remote, less tactile connection to 'my giants' - implying a certain journey in the making on one hand, yet a considerable restraint, with a certain enigmatic puzzle attached to it, raising several possible questions as to who are those giants, why are they casting shadows.

The Three Giants I allude to are the three pillars of contemporary Israeli Art Music, often considered the founding fathers of Israeli 20th century music: they are respectively (in the order of the programming of the piece) - **Paul Ben Haim, Mordecai Seter, Oeden Partos.**

I dedicated each movement to these composers, by borrowing a motif from each of these composers' oeuvre respectively, using it as anchor to my own composition, a 'tail', if you wish, or a 'shadow'. (following them, like in a detective story). I chose a 5 note 'pentachord' - a unique compositional 'signature' I collected from the aforementioned composers' oeuvre showcasing the compelling compositional take each had on the cultural music environment he was operating in, whether inspired by Israeli folk forms, modal, serial, atonal, developing it as my homage to each of them.

However, There is also, a fourth Giant, a grand master of color - a painter, overseeing the entire structure of this piece, providing the overall necessary framework : the nocturnal scenery, the darker colors and palettes I used and inspired by (mostly purple, blue, black hues), again, from the founding fathers of Israeli Art of the 20th century: **Mordecai Ardon** (1896-1992). I titled these three movements after looking at his vivid depiction of Jewish life adopting my imaginary-secret-inner-narrative based on three of his nocturnal adventures, hence the coming full circle to my 'shadows' - the sun has already set sail and night is approaching, from the synagogue, the outdoors, the streets, the ghettos, shadows are coming, some of them ominous, some friendly, some are quite inevitable (as Ardon certainly was referring to historic, key-events in Judaism). The three movements are listed below as well as the three paintings and the three motifs.

The piece is 9 minute long and. The movements do NOT have to be played in the order I chose:

1. Purple Twilight (For Paul Ben Haim) 4minutes
2. Crystal Night (For Mordecai Seter) 3minutes
3. Midnight Prayer (For Oeden Partos) 2minutes

להלך בצל ענקים

כותרת היצירה שלי התחברה באופן רופף לביטוי הלטיני הקיים 'לעמוד על כתפי ענקים' שמשמעותו תרתי משמע: גילוי אמת על ידי התבססות על תגליות קודמות-אך בכל זאת בחרתי לסטות מהביטוי הנ"ל לעבר מתן כותרת מרוחקת יותר, המרמזת מצד אחד על מסע, על דרך ומסלול פיזיים ומצד שני על מרחק מסויים שהינו מטפיזי מן ה'ענקים' שלי והמעורר תהיות על מימד הזמן המרומז: מה הוא הצל, מי הם הנפילים המטילים אותו ומהי משמעות ההליכה, המסע, מה תכליתו?

שלושת הענקים שאני מרמז עליהם הם שלושת עמודי התווך של מוזיקת אמנות ישראלית עכשווית, הנחשבים לעתים קרובות לאבות המייסדים של המוזיקה הישראלית של המאה העשרים: הם בהתאמה (לפי סדר התכניתי של היצירה) **פאול בן חיים, מרדכי סתר, עדן פרטוש.**

לכל אחד מהם הוקדש פרק, כמעין הצדעה, הומאג'. לצורך העניין שאלתי מוטיב מוסיקלי בין 5 צלילים מבין יצירותיהם של הללו והשתמשתי בו כמעין קמע, מעין מצפן ייחודי שעזר לי יצאתי למסעותי, אם תרצו זהו הצל שלי.

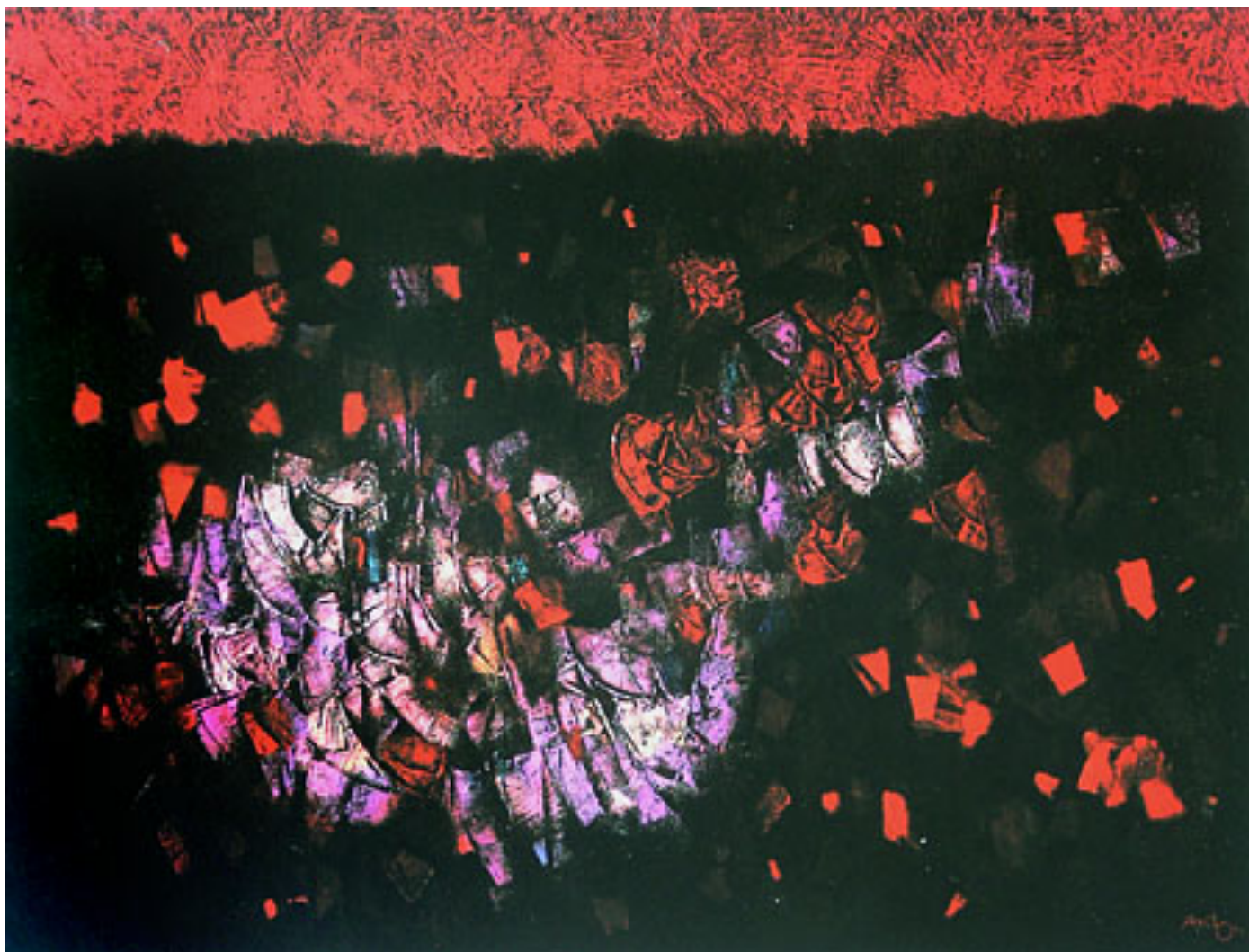
עם זאת, ישנו גם ענק רביעי, נפיל מאין כמוהו: אמן מפואר בצבע, ש'מפקח' על כל המבנה של היצירה הזו, ומספק את המסגרת הכוללת: הנוף הלילי, הצבעים הכהים שהשתמשתי בהם ובהשראתם (סגול, כחול, שחור) שוב, מאבות המייסדים שלהאמנות הישראלית של המאה העשרים: **מרדכי ארדון** (1896-1992). הפרקים מבוססים על כותרות של שלוש מעבודותיו, ביססתי אותם לאחר שהתבוננתי והושפעתי מתיאורו החי של חיי היהודים, ובחרתי לאמץ את הנרטיב הדמיוני שלי בהתבסס על הרושם העז שהשאירו בי ציוריו רוויי ההרפתקאות הליליות - ומכאן החזרה לפירוש לבחירת הכותרת שלי ליצירה: השמש במקרה זה כבר הפליגה הרחק מעבר לאופק והערב והלילה כבר קרבים, ואורות הדמדומים עולים מבית הכנסת, מהרחובות, הגטאות, השכונות ומהטבע- הצללים מגיעים, חלקם, חלקם ידידותיים חלקם מבשרים רע, חלקם בלתי נמנעים (כרמז עתיד לבוא למאורעות הסטוריים בחיי היהדות במאה ה-20 אשר ארדון היה עד לה).

היצירה בת 9 דקות. הפרקים יכולים להיות מנוגנים בכל סדר אפשרי.

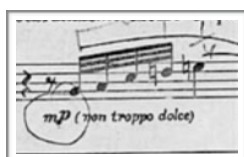
שלוש התנועות מופיעות בהמשך וכן שלושת הציורים ושלושת המוטיבים:

1. דמדומים סגולים - לפאול בן חיים
2. קריסטל נאכט- למרדכי סתר
3. תפילת חצות - לעדן פרטוש

1. PURPLE TWILIGHT

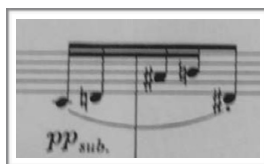


Paul Ben Haim, Op 20



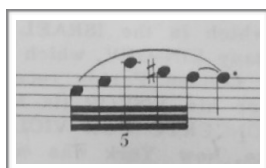
Paul Ben Haim, Op 34

2. CRYSTAL NIGHT



Mordecai Seter , Scherzo

3. MIDNITE PRAYERS



Oeden Partos, Prelude

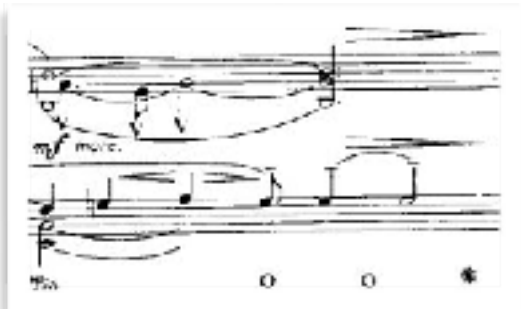
PERFORMANCE NOTES:



Different fermatas lengths respectively present here different relative note lengths, in corrolation with the regular fermata (here with its two longer and one shorter siblings).



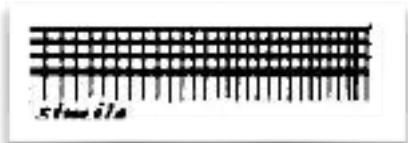
Heart - measure your heart beat, placing a hand near a main vein, this will serve as your initial tempo: It will ensure a 'fresh', independent, time feeling in each performance.



The symbol **O** means that one releases the damper pedal halfly, then pushes it down again, thereby letting part of the previous harmony resonate.

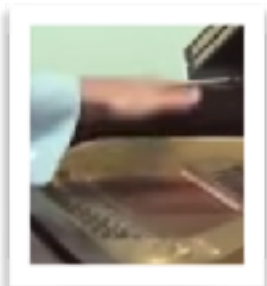


clusters are used various times in the piece.
Here is a glossary of how to play them correctly.



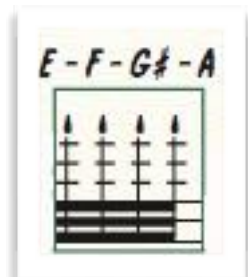
Open Improvisation -

Play any rhythm pattern, tempo - all ad.lib



Bass slap: Hit the middle of the lowest octave of the piano, in a rapid percussive, slap like motion, letting a muffled cumulative sound.

Notated:



Melodic Improvisation-

Play a specific given melodic motif, repeating it at the indicated duration.

WALK IN THE SHADOW OF GIANTS

A I. PURPLE TWILIGHT

FOR THE RUBINSTEIN PIANO COMPETITION

2019

♩ = ♥ DISTANT, AS IF IN A FUNERAL PROCESSION

♩ = 42 DOLENTE

PIANO

SEMPRE 8VA

SEMPRE 8VB

Una Corda, A piacere
(not full in, more like half pedal in).

Sustain pedal.

1. (inside piano. Mark strings in advance)
2. (continue pressing pedal - while picking inside the piano)

♩ = 48 Ord.

Poco ACCEL..

rinforzando

5:4

mp

mf

♩ = 52 PENSIVE

7:4

ppp

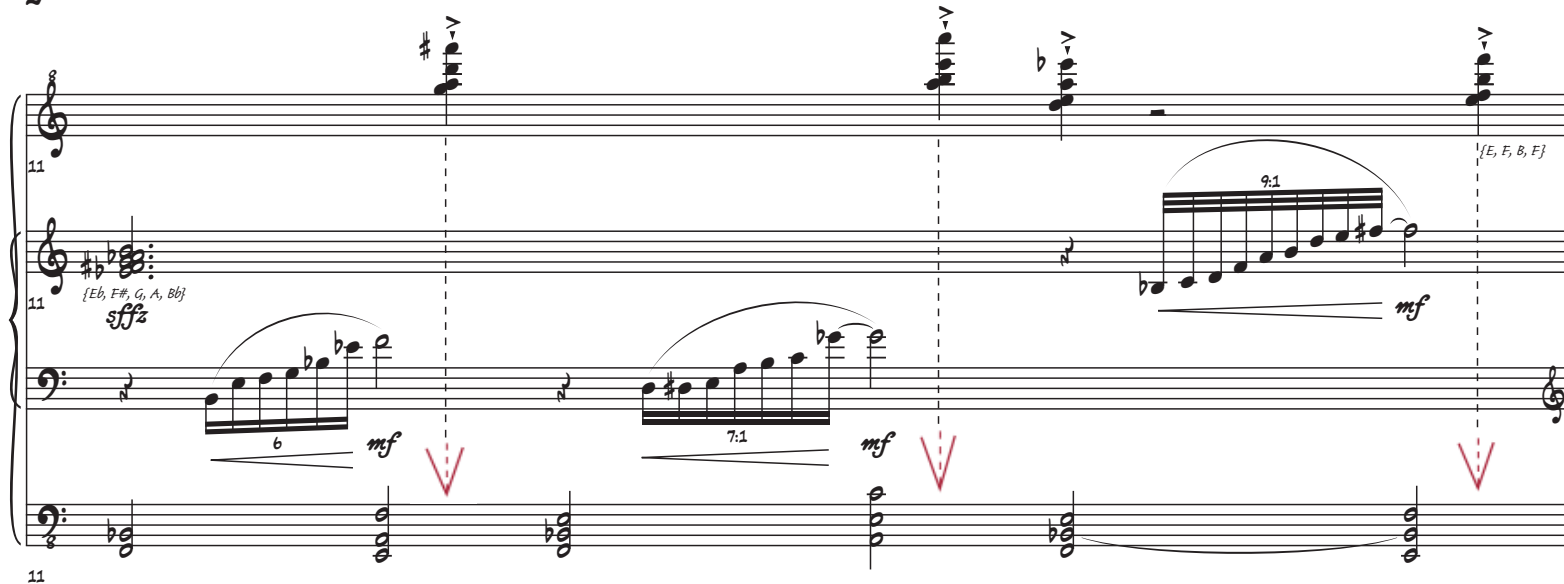
p

mp Sonore

mf

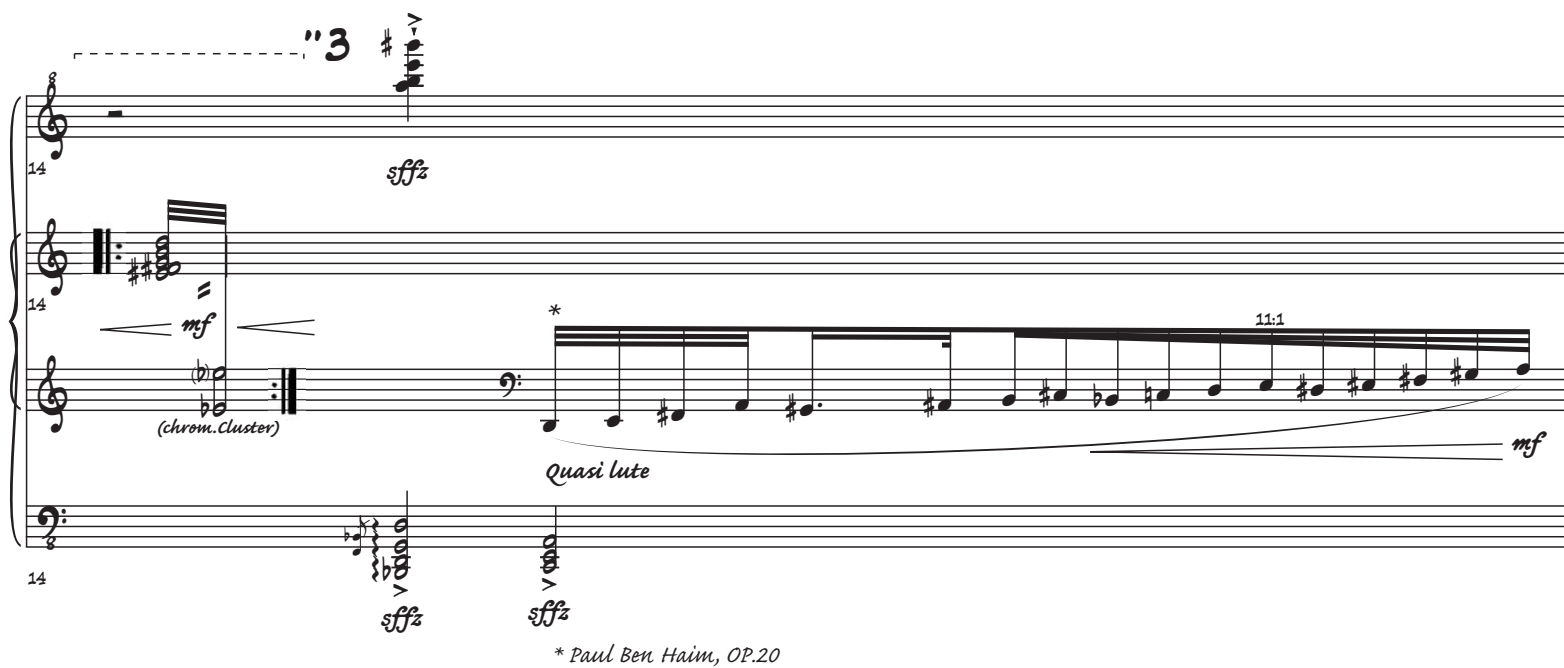
mp

mf



System 1 (Measures 11-15):

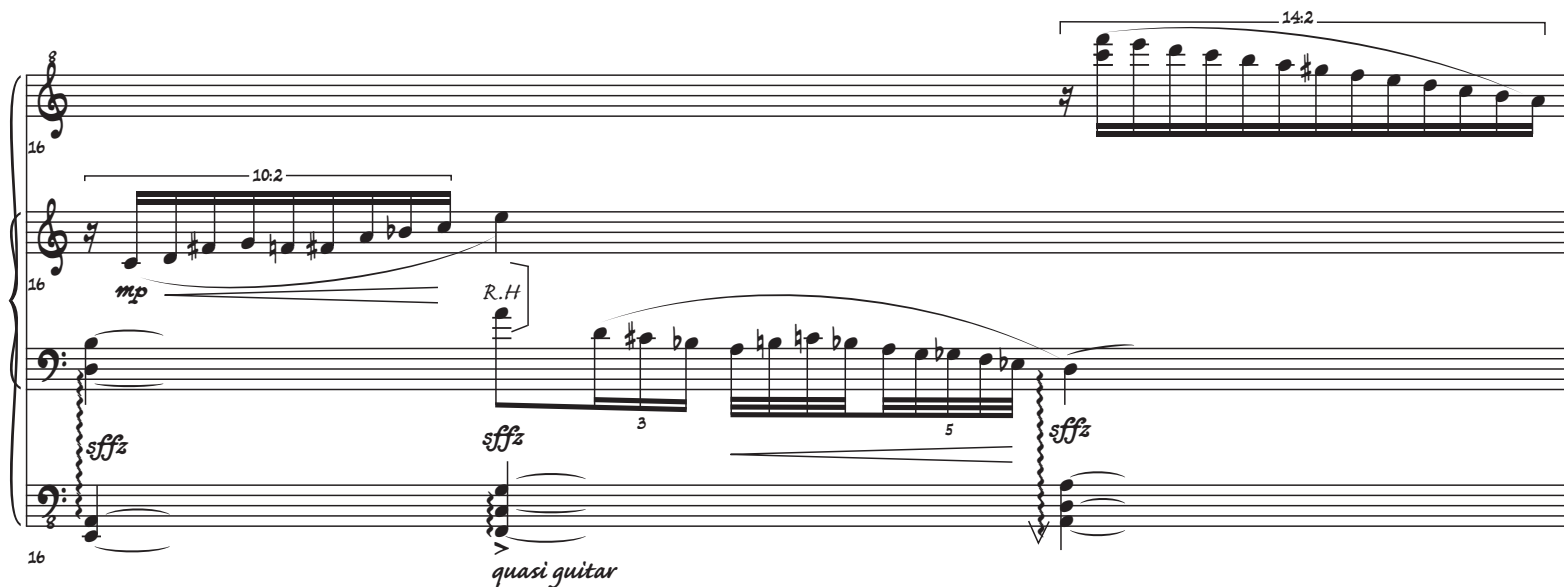
- Staff 1 (Soprano): Measure 11 has a whole note chord with a sharp sign above it. Measures 12-15 have whole notes with a b above them.
- Staff 2 (Treble): Measure 11 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and sfz dynamic. Measures 12-15 have a melodic line with a slur and mf dynamic. Measure 15 has a 9:1 ratio indicated above the staff.
- Staff 3 (Bass): Measures 12-15 have a melodic line with a slur and mf dynamic. Measure 12 has a 6:1 ratio indicated below the staff. Measure 13 has a 7:1 ratio indicated below the staff. Measure 15 has a 9:1 ratio indicated above the staff.
- Staff 4 (Bass): Measures 12-15 have a whole note chord with a b below it.



System 2 (Measures 14-15):

- Staff 1 (Soprano): Measure 14 has a whole note chord with a sharp sign above it and sfz dynamic. Measure 15 has a whole note chord with a sharp sign above it and sfz dynamic.
- Staff 2 (Treble): Measure 14 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 15 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 15 has a 11:1 ratio indicated above the staff.
- Staff 3 (Bass): Measure 14 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 15 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 15 has a 11:1 ratio indicated above the staff.
- Staff 4 (Bass): Measure 14 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and sfz dynamic. Measure 15 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and sfz dynamic.

* Paul Ben Haim, OP.20



System 3 (Measures 16-17):

- Staff 1 (Soprano): Measure 16 has a whole note chord with a sharp sign above it and sfz dynamic. Measure 17 has a whole note chord with a sharp sign above it and sfz dynamic.
- Staff 2 (Treble): Measure 16 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 17 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 17 has a 10:2 ratio indicated above the staff.
- Staff 3 (Bass): Measure 16 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 17 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and mf dynamic. Measure 17 has a 10:2 ratio indicated above the staff.
- Staff 4 (Bass): Measure 16 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and sfz dynamic. Measure 17 has a whole note chord with a key signature change to $\text{E}\flat$, $\text{F}\sharp$, G , A , $\text{B}\flat$ and sfz dynamic.

quasi guitar

B ♩=52 (♩=104) **MISTERIOUSO**

Poco ACCEL..

♩=60

Measures 19-21 of the 'Misterioso' section. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 19 features a piano introduction with a forte (f) dynamic. Measures 20 and 21 contain complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and quintuplets. The bass line is marked with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic.

Poco ACCEL..

Measures 22-25 of the 'Misterioso' section. The music continues with intricate triplet and quintuplet patterns in both hands. The tempo is marked as 'Poco ACCEL..'.

♩=66 **CON BRIO**

Measures 26-28 of the 'CON BRIO' section. Measure 26 begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic, marked 'espressivo and marcato'. Measure 27 features a forte (f) dynamic, marked 'leggero', with a specific fingering instruction: {A, C#, D, G#}. Measure 28 concludes with a piano introduction marked 'pesante' and a dynamic range from mezzo-forte (mf) to forte (f).

C ♩=72 **FURIOUSO**

POCO ACCEL..

♩=84

Measures 29-31 of the musical score. The piece is in common time (C) with a tempo of ♩=72. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is for piano (p) and includes a forte (f) dynamic marking. The tempo is marked as POCO ACCEL.. and increases to ♩=84. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and a 5:1 ratio marking.

Measures 32-35 of the musical score. The tempo is marked as POCO ACCEL.. and increases to ♩=90. The score is for piano (p) and includes a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic marking. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and a 5:1 ratio marking. The piece ends with a fortissimo (ffz) dynamic marking.

Measures 36-38 of the musical score. The tempo is marked as POCO ACCEL.. and increases to ♩=90. The score is for piano (p) and includes a fortissimo (ffz) dynamic marking. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and a 5:1 ratio marking. The piece ends with a fortissimo (ffz) dynamic marking.

Musical score for "The Rose Tree" in 3/8 time. The score is written for four staves: Treble 1, Treble 2, Bass 1, and Bass 2. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 96. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests. Dynamics include *ff* (fortissimo) and *fff* (fortississimo). The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

[illegible]

^{*}**D** WITH DEXTERITY

42

42

mf

42

**play as fast as you wish/can, L.H and R.H do not need to align in any fixed counterpoint- and can rather feed of each other, in a complementary rhhythmic fashion.*

♩=96 MYSTICAL

45 *mf* Sonore, Sempre

46 *f*

47 *ff*

48 *fff*

R.H.

47 *f*

play continuously while having your left hand adding clusters as indicated:

(L.H.)

sffz (SEMPRE)

(WHITE NOTE ELBOW-WRIST CLUSTER)

"3

R.H.

51 *f*

(L.H.)

spread more than one cluster hit evenly over the approximate time frame

sffz

"4

R.H.

55 *f*

(L.H.)

with 3 hits and 4 the elbow is bouncing quicker

sffz

"5

R.H.

59 *f*

(L.H.)

~ a cluster hit every 1 second or so for this final round. Last one is a Bass Slap.

sffz

sffz

R.H.
(BASS SLAP)

"6

E ♩=60-66 GROTESQUE, MECHANIQUE

7

64

ffz >

Lh

LH

5

R.H

f molto ritmico

f

R.H

f

R.H

L.H

f

R.H

L.H

sim.

ffz > (R.H)

68

f

68

(L.H)

68

ffz

move briskly in similar motion upward -
pick any notes you'd like -
try to maintain a chromatic balance of White and Black notes.

♩= ♡ AS IN THE END OF A FUNERAL PROCESSION, UNDER A DARKENING HORIZON

73

Molto rubato, a piacere

(inside)

Trem, with nails/finger tips

p

pppp

73

pp

Ped.

Una Corda, A piacere
(not full in, more like half pedal in).

(continue pressing pedal - while plucking inside the piano)

II. CRYSTAL NIGHT

♩=60 BARBARO, FEROCO

System 1:

- Treble staff: *sfz ff* *lv (sempre)* *Sharp, Like the sound of Broken crystals*
- Bass staff 1: *ppp* *obscure: like an undertone*
- Bass staff 2: *sfz ff* *lv (sempre)* *Sharp, Like the sound of Broken crystals*
- Bass staff 3: *p* * Mordecai Seter. Scherzo

System 2:

- Treble staff: *mp* *3* *7*
- Bass staff 1: *p* *DOLCE, DELICATANENTE* *legato sim...*
- Bass staff 2: *p* *5* *3*
- Bass staff 3: *p*

System 3:

- Treble staff: *f* *5*
- Bass staff 1: *ppp* *3* *3* *3* *5* *mf*
- Bass staff 2: *f*

Footnote:

+ accidentals apply to same pattern. thus Db, Ab repeats throughout both triplets.

The musical score is written for a vocal soloist and a piano accompaniment. The vocal part is in treble clef, and the piano part consists of three staves: right hand (treble clef), left hand (bass clef), and a lower staff (bass clef, likely for a second left hand or a specific instrument like a cello/bass). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes measures 9 through 12. The second system includes measures 13 through 16. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *ppp* (pianissimo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Performance instructions include "principal voice" and "molto ritmico, percussive sim..". Fingerings and articulations are indicated with numbers and slurs. The score ends with a fermata over the final note in measure 16.

12

8 12

7 6 7 7 5 3

12

12

The image shows a musical score for 'The Swan' by Camille Saint-Saëns. It is a piano and voice arrangement. The score is in 3/4 time and D major. The piano part is written for a grand piano, and the vocal part is for a solo voice. The score includes a piano introduction, a vocal entry, and a piano solo section. The piano part features complex triplets and sixteenth-note patterns. The vocal part is a simple melody. The score is in 3/4 time and D major.

18

ff *Sempre Sonore*

ppp

18

ff *Sempre Sonore*

21

mp subito
Dolce-amaro

p *delicatamente*

21

24

ff

24

ff

$\text{♩} = 90$ ($\text{♩} = 180$)

Measures 27-30 of the musical score. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a half note chord (F#4, A4) marked *mf*. The piano accompaniment begins with a half note chord (F#2, A2) marked *f* and *Violent*. The right hand of the piano features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *legato, sempre*. The left hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 27, 28, 29, and 30 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

Measures 30-33 of the musical score. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a half note chord (F#4, A4) marked *sfz*. The piano accompaniment begins with a half note chord (F#2, A2) marked *ppp*. The right hand of the piano features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *f* and *Grotesque*. The left hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 30, 31, 32, and 33 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

Measures 31-34 of the musical score. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a half note chord (F#4, A4) marked *mf*. The piano accompaniment begins with a half note chord (F#2, A2) marked *mf*. The right hand of the piano features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *sfz*. The left hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 31, 32, 33, and 34 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

♩=90 (♩=180)

33

33

ppp *Calm*

f marcato

mf

33

35

35

mp *legato, sempre*

35

36

36

ppp *Pensive, Hesitant*

f *Indecisive*

p *like an echo*

36

6

DELIRIOUSO

38 *mf* *legato, sempre* *f* 5:2

38 *mf* *legato, sempre* *f* *ff*

38 *mf* *ff*

41 *ff* 6:2 7:2 *fff* *ffff*

41 *ff* *fff* *ffff*

41 *ff* *fff* *ffff*

f *Disperazione*

♩=52

POCO RALENTANDO..

♩=48

POCO RALENTANDO..

♩=40

♩=32

43 *sffz* *pp* *Amoroso, agitato* *ppp* *Perdendosi* *fff* *With ultimate rage!*

43 *sffz* *pp* *Amoroso, agitato* *ppp* *Perdendosi* *fff* *With ultimate rage!*

43 *sffz* *pp* *Amoroso, agitato* *ppp* *Perdendosi* *fff* *With ultimate rage!*

III. MIDNIGHT PRAYERS (IN TWO PARTS: ASHKENAZ PRAYER, SEPHARDIC PRAYER)

A ♩=48 IMPROVISATIONAL FANTASY ON 'EL MALE RACHAMIM' (ASHKENAZ VERSION)

[illegible]

+ACCIDENTALS APPLY TO NOTES IN THE SAME MOTIVIC CANTILATION/REITERATION/MODALITY (THE $G^{\sharp}$ INDICATED HERE REPEATS IN BASS CLEF UNTIL CANCELLED BY COURTESY ACCIDENTAL ON THE HIGHTER OCTAVE)

This page of musical notation consists of five systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The notation is highly detailed, featuring complex fingerings, dynamics, and articulations.

System 1: The bass staff begins with a sequence of notes marked with a fingering of 11. The treble staff has a long melodic line with various fingerings (7, 5, 3) and a slur. A dashed line labeled *8va* indicates an octave shift in the bass staff.

System 2: The treble staff continues the melodic line with fingerings 6, 5, 5, 7, 5, 5, 5. The bass staff has chords and single notes with fingerings 5, 5, 5.

System 3: The treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings 6, 5, 6. The bass staff has a sequence of notes with fingerings 5, 5, 9. Dynamics *f* and *ff* are indicated. A slur with a fingering of 4 is present in the treble staff.

System 4: The treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings 6, 5, 7, 6. The bass staff has a sequence of notes with fingerings 7, 6, 5. Dynamics *fff* and *loco.* are indicated. A slur with a fingering of 3 is present in the bass staff.

System 5: The treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings 3, 5, 3, 5. The bass staff has a sequence of notes with fingerings 3, 5. Dynamics *ff* and *f* are indicated. A slur with a fingering of 3 is present in the bass staff.

mf mp

6 11 7 3

Poco accel..

5 6 7 10 8

B IMPROVISATIONAL FANTASY ON A $\diamond$ SAMAI $\diamond$ PRAYER $\text{♩} = 66$

15^{ma} 8^{va} loco.

mf con spirito

3 7

$\diamond$ SAMAI $\diamond$ IS A RHYTHMIC CYCLE IN 10 BEATS (10/8 OR 10/4) IN WHICH THE ACCENTED PATTERN IS 1-- 4-6 7---| 1-- 4-6 7---| ETC

IT IS USED WIDELY IN THE SEPHARDIC JUDEO COMMUNITIES IN ANDALUSIAN MUSIC, TILL THIS DAY.

(THE ARTIFICIAL SUBDIVISION TO TWO GROUPS OF FIVE BEATS IS FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY)

3 5:2

3 3 3 3

4

8^{va}-----

ff fff

8^{va}-----

C CODA/ EPILOGUE
 ♩=42 LUGUBRE

p

Poco rallentando..

♩=32 SOGNANDO

pp molto rubato

ppp

8^{va}----- 15^{ma}----- 4-5''

sempre legato

(# OF REPEAT TIMES: AD.LIB)

Niente