

Athanasiос Zlikas

Recursion

on a theme by K. Tsougras

York, 2012

Composer's note

I am often inclined to give titles that describe my compositions in a self-referential manner. “Melting clocks”, “Reflections”, “Permutations”, for example, refer to what actually happens in those works at a deeper level of construction.

Thus, “Recursion” for Solo Piano attempts a personal approach to the traditional theme and variation form, with the concept of the title defining the form of the work. The choice of the theme itself obeys this principle. It is a miniature of 8 measures (mm. 1-8) by the Greek composer Kostas Tsougras, which, besides the fact that it is used as a theme for variations by himself, is also an allusion to Anton Webern's Concerto for Nine Instruments, Op. 24, since it is based on the free use of the tone row of the work.

In other words, I refer to a composer who refers to another composer by writing variations on a theme that is itself a kind of variation. Furthermore, at an even deeper level of recursion the fourth variation of the work contains variations of the three last ones as well as of the theme.

Recursion

on a theme by K. Tsougras

Ahanasios Zlikas
(2012)

THEMA

non nervoso $\text{♩} = 67$

Musical score for THEMA. The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *p*, *mp*, and *p*. Pedal points are marked with "Ped." and a downward arrow. The tempo is indicated as non nervoso with $\text{♩} = 67$. The section concludes with a dynamic of *poco rit.*

5 A Tempo

Musical score for A Tempo. The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The key signature changes to E major (one sharp). The time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *pp*. Pedal points are marked with "Ped." and a downward arrow.

A INVENTION I

Musical score for Invention I section A. The score consists of three staves: treble, bass, and piano right. The key signature changes to F# major (one sharp). The time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *pp ff*, *mf*, and *pp*. Pedal points are marked with "Ped." and a downward arrow.

Musical score for the continuation of Invention I section A. The score consists of three staves: treble, bass, and piano right. The key signature changes to C major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *pp*, *mf*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *pp ff*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, and *pp*. Pedal points are marked with "Ped." and a downward arrow.

15

p *pp* *mf* *ff* *pp* *p*[#] *pp*

pp *mf* *Ped.* *Ped.*

B INVENTION II

18

8va *p* *pp* *#mf* *mf* *f*

mf *f*

20

f *ff* *ff*

ff

22

ffff *ffff* *ffff*

A musical score for piano, page 24. The score consists of four staves. The top staff is treble clef, the second staff is treble clef, the third staff is bass clef, and the bottom staff is bass clef. The key signature changes between measures. Dynamic markings include **ff**, **f**, **mf**, and **ff**. Articulation marks like dots and dashes are present on various notes. Measure 1 starts with a forte dynamic **ff**. Measure 2 begins with a dynamic **f**. Measure 3 starts with **mf**. Measure 4 starts with **ff**. Measure 5 starts with **mf**.

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 26-27. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a melodic line with dynamic markings *p*, *ff*, and *p*. The bottom staff shows harmonic bass notes. Measure 26 ends with a fermata over the bass note. Measure 27 begins with a dynamic *pp* and a measure repeat sign, followed by a bass note with a fermata.

C CRAB CANON

Musical score for piano, page 28, measures 28-31. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, 4/4 time, and the bottom staff is in bass clef, 4/4 time. Measure 28 starts with a dynamic of *ppp*. Measure 29 begins with a dynamic of *pp*. Measure 30 starts with a dynamic of *ppp*. Measure 31 starts with a dynamic of *pp*, followed by a dynamic of *p*.

38

D PASSACAGLIA

43

49 **E**

52

F

55

58

G

61

63

65

H

67

70

I

73

76

J

79

Musical score for orchestra, page 85, measures 1-8. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, 2/8 time, key signature of one sharp (F#), dynamic ff, and includes a box labeled 'K'. The bottom staff is in bass clef, 2/8 time, key signature of one flat (B-flat). Both staves feature eighth-note patterns with various slurs and grace notes. Measure 8 begins with a key change to 7/32 time.

L

91

fff

Ped.

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 94-95. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is treble clef and the bottom staff is bass clef. Measure 94 starts with a forte dynamic. Measure 95 begins with a piano dynamic. The score includes various accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals) and rests. Measure 95 concludes with a measure repeat sign and a key signature change to G major (three sharps). The page number 10 is at the bottom right.

M

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 97-100. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, 3/16 time, and has a key signature of one flat. The bottom staff is in bass clef, 3/16 time, and has a key signature of one sharp. Measure 97 starts with a bass note followed by a treble note. Measures 98-100 show a repeating pattern of bass notes and treble notes, with slurs and grace notes. Measure 100 ends with a bass note followed by a treble note. The score includes dynamic markings like 'Ped.' and 'v'.

N

101

5 32

5 32

^Ped. ^Ped.

O

106

2 16

2 16

^Ped. ^Ped.

P

113

32 32

32 32

^Ped. ^Ped.

Q

121

3 8 3 8

3 8 3 8

^Ped. ^Ped.

123

125

127

129

132

Ped.

8vb

(8)

Ped.

8vb

(8)

Ped.

(8)

(8)

ca. 15"

ca. 5'30"

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