
Marimba Sonata

Jake Berran

(2023)



Program Notes

The name "sonata" serves three purposes. First, the form loosely resembles a traditional sonata form with an exposition, development, and recapitulation. Second, the content bears aesthetic similarities to Classical-era piano sonatas, most importantly the sewing of discrete rhythmic or textural "chunks" together into a drama with clarity and direction. Third, the name is nonspecific—recently, I have grown skeptical of using highly connotative titles for pieces that aren't overtly programmatic. When I hear the piece, one time it may remind me of a daydream where new thoughts and ideas keep coming and I can't keep up, and the next time I may think of our fast-paced society where we are constantly thrown new challenges at a disorienting rate. But it may do a major disservice to others to impose my own interpretation. Finally, though the magnitude of *Marimba Sonata* may not warrant such a title, I expect the piece to grow in the future.

Performance Notes

- Hard mallets which allow for sustained rolls at sufficiently soft dynamics are ideal.
- In passages with dead strokes, tenutos are used to confirm a normal stroke.

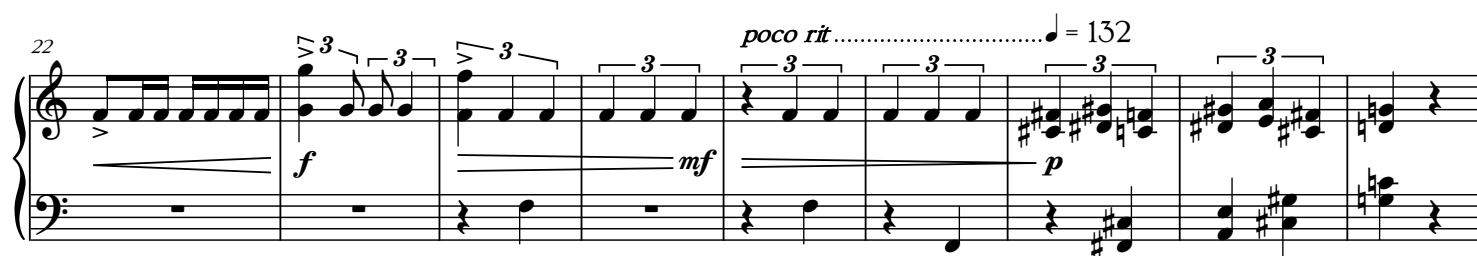
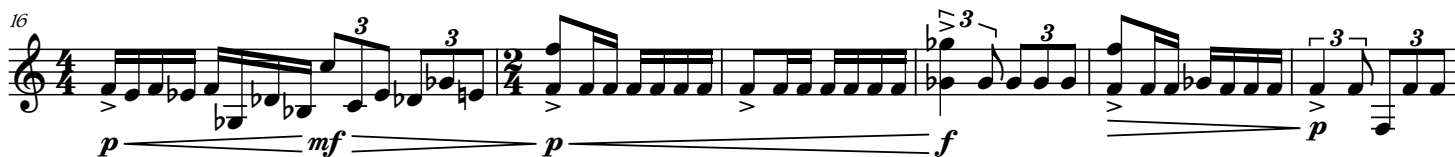
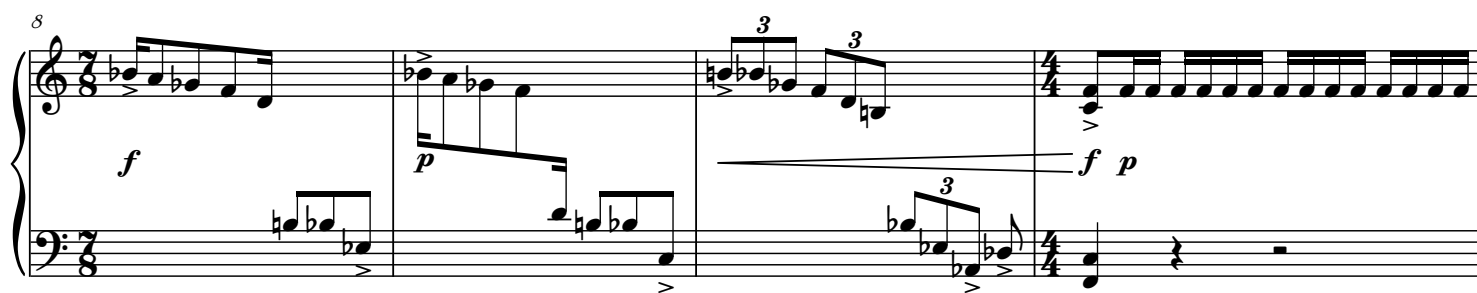
Duration: ca. 7'

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(Rev. 3/28/23)

♩ = 144

Marimba



31

3

pp *mf*

36

pp *mf* *p*

40

♩ = 144

p *f* *p*

45

(f) p *f*

49

p *f* *mf*

53

p *mf* *p* *f*

59

p *pp* *p*

63 *mf* *p*

67 *mf* *p* *mf*

71 *p* *mf*

75 *p* *mf*

79 *ff* *f* *mf*

83 *p* *f* *mf*

89 *rit* *mp* *p* ♩ = 90

$\text{♩} = 120$

94 *p*

98 *pp* *p*

101 *mp* *p* *p* *f*

105 *p* *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f*

109 *p* *mf*

114 *p* *f*

118 *p*

123

f *mf*

132

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

143

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

$\text{♩} = 60$

153

f *p* *p* *p*

157

f *p* *p* *p*

162 (mlts. angled up)

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

♩ = 144 - like waking up

168 (normal)

(play on nodes)

(from nodes to center) (center of bar)

f *sempre f*

173

f *p* *mf* *p*

178

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

181

f *p* *f*

186

dead stroke

rit....

♩ = 132 - as if hiding

p *pp* *ppp*

192

p

224

f

228

p *f*

232 $\text{♩} = 144$

f *p* *f* *p*

241

f *p*

249

mf *p* *f* *p*

252

f

255

(f) p

259

f p ff

263

$\text{♩} = 120$ - like a ghost

ppp

$\text{♩} = 90$ rall.....