

Stoic and Stalwart

Variations on an Original Theme

Lothar Bander mann (2013)

Moderato ♩ = 110

Measures 1-6 of the piece. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The first staff (treble clef) begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second staff (bass clef) provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Measures 7-11. The music continues with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The bass line becomes more active with eighth-note patterns.

Measures 12-16. Measure 12 is marked *molto rit.* (very ritardando). Measure 13 is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). Measure 14 is marked *a tempo*. Measure 15 is marked *f* (forte). Measure 16 ends with a fermata.

Measures 17-22. The music returns to the original tempo and dynamics. Measure 22 ends with a fermata.

Var. I Poco piu mosso ♩ = 140

Measures 23-28 of the first variation. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The first staff (treble clef) begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff (bass clef) provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

31 *molto rit.*

37 *a tempo*
mf

45 **Var. II Vicace** ♩ = 160
p

51

57 *molto rit.* *a tempo*
mf

62 *rit.*

Var. III Presto ♩ = 180

67

ff

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3

3 3

Musical score for measures 67-70. The piece is in C major, 3/4 time. Measures 67-70 feature a rapid, repetitive melodic line in the right hand, primarily consisting of eighth notes and quarter notes, often grouped in threes. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines, also featuring triplets. The dynamic marking is fortissimo (ff).

71

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

Musical score for measures 71-74. The right hand continues with a rapid melodic line, while the left hand features a more complex accompaniment with triplets and chords. The tempo remains Presto.

75

poco meno mosso ♩ = 150

f

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

Musical score for measures 75-77. The tempo changes to poco meno mosso (♩ = 150). The right hand plays a series of chords, some with triplets, while the left hand has a more active line with triplets. The dynamic marking is forte (f).

78

rall.

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

Musical score for measures 78-80. The tempo is marked rallentando (rall.). The right hand features a series of chords, and the left hand has a melodic line with triplets.

81

Presto

ff

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

Musical score for measures 81-84. The tempo returns to Presto. The right hand has a rapid melodic line with triplets, and the left hand has a steady accompaniment with triplets. The dynamic marking is fortissimo (ff).

85

rit.

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

3 3 3 3

Musical score for measures 85-88. The tempo is marked ritardando (rit.). The right hand has a melodic line with triplets, and the left hand has a steady accompaniment with triplets.

Var. IV Andante ♩ = 92

89 *p*

95

100 *rall.* *a tempo*

106 *rit.*

111 Var. V Adagio ♩ = 108

mf

115

119

123

rall. a tempo

127

130

rit.

Var. VI Tempo di marcia ♩ = 100

133

f

marca melodia

137

141

mf

145

rall.

149

f

a tempo

153

ff

6

Var. VII Toccata ♩ = 98

157

ff furioso

160

163

f

166

168

p *cresc.*

170

rall. *a tempo*
ff

173

176

molto rit.

179 Fuga* ♩ = 100

179 *f*

184 *3*

185

191 *f*

195 *mf* *Note

197

203

209 *f*

215 **rall.** **Moderato** ♩ = 110

220 **molto rit.**

ff *f* *mf* *dim.* *p*

Cupertino, Sept. 2013

*The subject of this short fugue is taken from the Russian National Anthem, m. 6 & 7, which reads in its original key, C-major:

4

*Mm. 195-198 quote mm. 13-16 of the anthem.

13

How this piece came about:

My wife, also a musician, and I have long been acquainted with Russian musician emigres whose friendship we enjoy and whose artistry inspires us. (As a student, I also once studied Russian but gave up on it because it was too hard.) Recently, during a dinner conversation, I asked one of these friends what he saw as key character traits of the Russian people. They have long suffered for centuries under brutal regimes (and it does not seem to be over yet) and yet endured. Thinking about our conversation later I felt "stoic" and "stalwart" to be two key character traits which helped the Russian people survive all that misery to remain a great people who has given us some of the greatest music much of it born out of suffering.