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Performance-Motivated Analysis:
An Approach to Performance Interpretation

BY

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Abstract

Performance-Motivated Analysis: An Approach to Performance Interpretation

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Performance interpretation is one of the most challenging yet most important skill sets for a performer to develop. Performers all use different approaches in developing their interpretations. This exegesis focuses on the idea of Performance-Motivated Analysis as one of these possible approaches to interpreting music. By performing a thorough analysis of the exposition of the first movement of Beethoven’s ‘Waldstein’ Sonata, by drawing upon many analytical sources, and by combining this with an annotative analysis of six performers’ interpretations, this exegesis shows how theory can be used to explain many possible interpretive decisions within the composition. I then use and discuss this knowledge in regards to my own interpretation and subsequent performance of the same composition for my Masters Recital.
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