

Forrest Balman

MUS 710

Sonata 46 in Ab Major, Haydn - Synopsis

One of the unique aspects of this sonata is the retransition. Defined as a section that functions as a passage which modulates to the tonic key, the retransition in this piece appears to be almost an afterthought. Haydn spends up until the very last moments of the development to maintain a sense of instability through frequent tonicizations and modulations. By the time the retransition appears, Haydn is posed with the challenge of modulating from F minor to A flat major. Granted, these two keys are relative to one another, the phrasing and structure of the retransition conveys senses of urgency and improvisation. This effect is felt the most at the point of transition to the first theme. The theme and retransition ellide at this point, fusing them into one unit with two differently functioning poles.

Another peculiar instance in the piece falls between measures eighty-eight and ninety-one. The first theme is restated for the second time in the recapitulation during these measures; however instead of restating the theme verbatim, Haydn varies the theme to reflect a focus on the dominant rather than continuing to emphasize the tonic. Haydn introduces two dark German augmented sixth chords which recolor the theme with F flats instead of the F naturals one would expect in a piece in Ab major. The recapitulation is expected to function as a restatement of themes already present in the exposition, however Haydn's use of variation presented an unexpected twist that was both pleasant to hear and analyze.

Handwritten musical score on ten staves. The notation includes treble clefs, notes, rests, and chords. Annotations in blue and red ink are present throughout the score:

- Staff 1:** Red annotation "P2.6" at the beginning. Blue annotation "T1" above the staff.
- Staff 2:** Blue annotation "T2" above the staff. Chords are labeled "HC" and "I9".
- Staff 3:** Blue annotation "T3" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".
- Staff 4:** Red annotation "P2.75" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".
- Staff 5:** Red annotation "P3" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".
- Staff 6:** Red annotation "P4" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".
- Staff 7:** Red annotation "P4" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".
- Staff 8:** Red annotation "P4" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".
- Staff 9:** Red annotation "P4" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".
- Staff 10:** Red annotation "P4" above the staff. Chords are labeled "I9" and "I7".

Handwritten musical score on ten staves. The notation includes treble and bass clefs, various note values, and rests. The score is annotated with Roman numerals (I-VI), Arabic numerals (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72), and other markings such as *Al*, *ba*, *III*, *IV*, *V*, *VI*, *7/16*, *8/16*, *9/16*, *10/16*, *11/16*, *12/16*, *13/16*, *14/16*, *15/16*, *16/16*, *17/16*, *18/16*, *19/16*, *20/16*, *21/16*, *22/16*, *23/16*, *24/16*, *25/16*, *26/16*, *27/16*, *28/16*, *29/16*, *30/16*, *31/16*, *32/16*, *33/16*, *34/16*, *35/16*, *36/16*, *37/16*, *38/16*, *39/16*, *40/16*, *41/16*, *42/16*, *43/16*, *44/16*, *45/16*, *46/16*, *47/16*, *48/16*, *49/16*, *50/16*, *51/16*, *52/16*, *53/16*, *54/16*, *55/16*, *56/16*, *57/16*, *58/16*, *59/16*, *60/16*, *61/16*, *62/16*, *63/16*, *64/16*, *65/16*, *66/16*, *67/16*, *68/16*, *69/16*, *70/16*, *71/16*, *72/16*. The score is divided into systems by large curly braces on the left side.

Handwritten musical score on ten staves. The notation includes treble clefs, notes, rests, and various annotations:

- Staff 1:** Starts with a green vertical line and the annotation "RT". The music is marked with a dynamic of *f* and includes the annotation "PAC".
- Staff 2:** Features a red vertical line and the annotation "PI".
- Staff 3:** Includes a red vertical line and the annotation "PI*".
- Staff 4:** Contains a red vertical line and the annotation "HC".
- Staff 5:** Includes a blue vertical line and the annotation "HC".
- Staff 6:** Features a blue vertical line and the annotation "HC".
- Staff 7:** Includes a blue vertical line and the annotation "HC".
- Staff 8:** Contains a blue vertical line and the annotation "HC".
- Staff 9:** Includes a blue vertical line and the annotation "HC".
- Staff 10:** Ends with a blue vertical line and the annotation "HC".

Other annotations include Roman numerals (I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII), chord symbols (Ab VII, G6, G7b, G7b6), and dynamic markings (p, f). The score is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

* Theme deviates after first five beats

75

Handwritten musical score, first system. Includes a blue vertical line and the letter 'B3' written in blue ink.

Handwritten musical score, second system. Includes a red vertical line and the label 'P3' written in red ink.

Handwritten musical score, third system. Includes a green vertical line and the label 'Coda' written in green ink.

Handwritten musical score, fourth system. Includes a red vertical line and the label 'P3' written in red ink.

Handwritten musical score, fifth system. Includes a red vertical line and the label 'P3' written in red ink.

Handwritten musical score, sixth system. Includes a red vertical line and the label 'P3' written in red ink.

Handwritten musical score, seventh system. Includes a green vertical line.

Handwritten musical score, eighth system. Includes a red vertical line and the label 'P3' written in red ink.