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Commissioned by / Commandé par Stéphane Lemelin with assistance / avec l'assistance de Radio Canada

Je répondrais... Solo Piano

Malcolm Forsyth

Piano Score



ISMN: 979-0-706080-88-8 CP107

Je répondrais...

(I would answer...)

Malcolm Forsyth

Program Notes

In the spirit of a response to three great composers, Forsyth has written these pieces either with a real title by that composer, the nickname of a work or, in the case of the second, with a cryptic reference to the composer himself.

à Purcell: Fantazia upon One Note

Purcell's famous piece of this name for string quintet has the second viola play the pitch B in whole-notes exclusively, while the others take the music to the boundaries of harmonic variety as they weave their contrapuntal web. Forsyth chooses the same pitch, B, one octave higher, and challenges the pianist to create an expressive richmess in a sparse texture.

à Schumann: Thumb-piano

Robert Schumann's huge lexicon of pianistic inventions exploits the expressive character of the players's thumbs to an unprecedented degree, melodic material frequently appearing in the middle of the texture. The name of a uniquely African musical instrument supplies the title as well as a veiled reference to Schumann's manual problems which destroyed his career as a pianist by disabling several fingers. Forsyth here weaves a web of arabesque-like figures built around the players's two thumbs.

à Chopin: White-key Study in African mode

The Etude op. 10 n °5 in G-flat major is commonly known by its nickname, The Black-Key Study. Forsyth has written his piece entirely on the white keys of the piano and with the character of an African improvisation, recalling his earliest musical experiences in his native South Africa. Asymmetrical measures and contrapuntal abound.

Malcolm Forsyth, 1997 Premiere/Première execution: November 21, 1997 / le 21 novembre 1997 Convocation Hall, Edmonton Stéphane Lemelin, pianiste

For more information on the composer, visit his website: www.malcolmforsythcomposer.ca

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à Stéphane Lemelin

Commandé par Stéphane Lemelin, avec l'assistance de Radio Canada



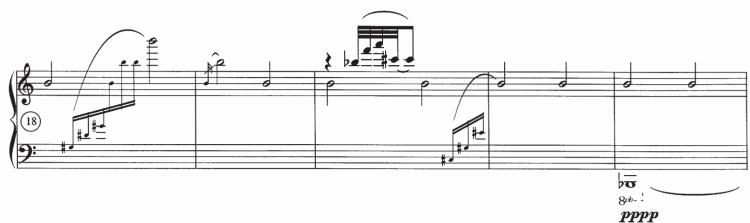
1. à Purcell: Fantazia upon one note

Malcolm Forsyth, 1997



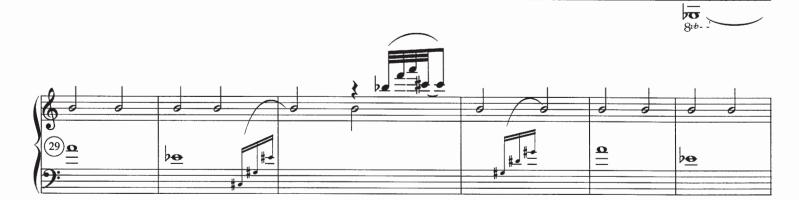


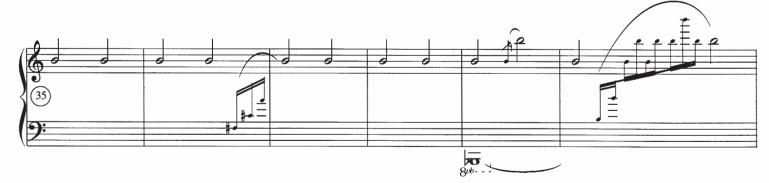




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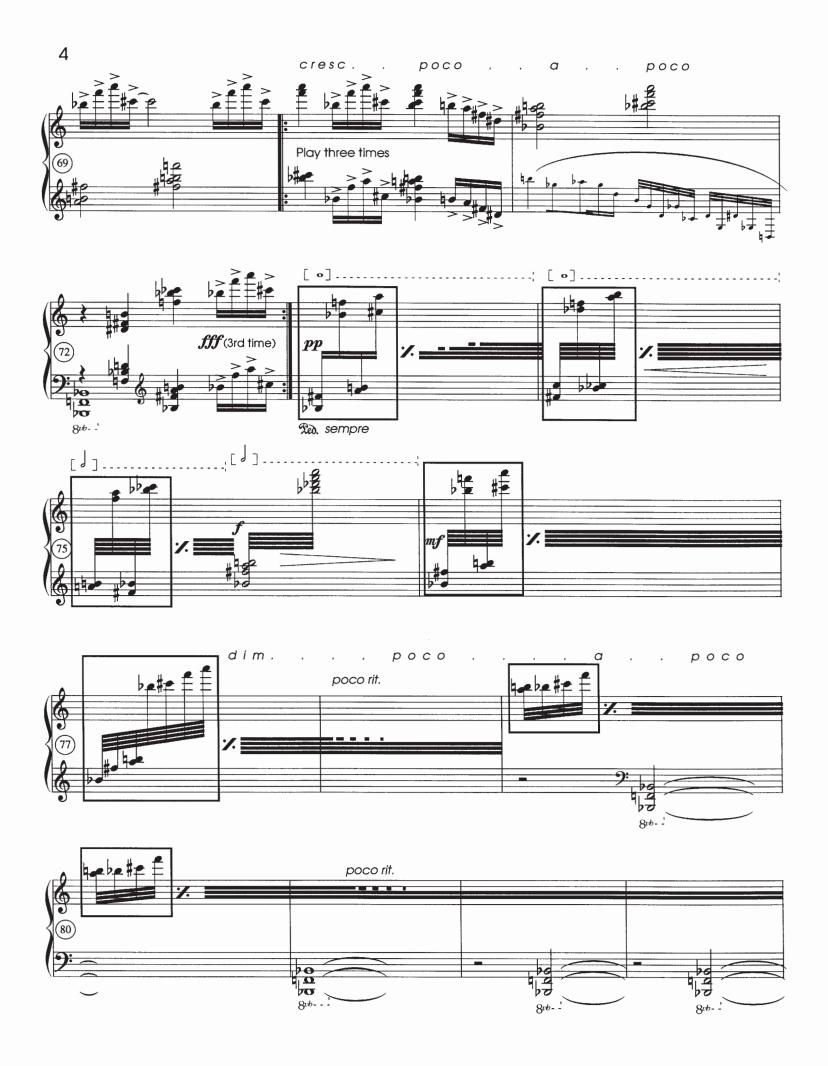










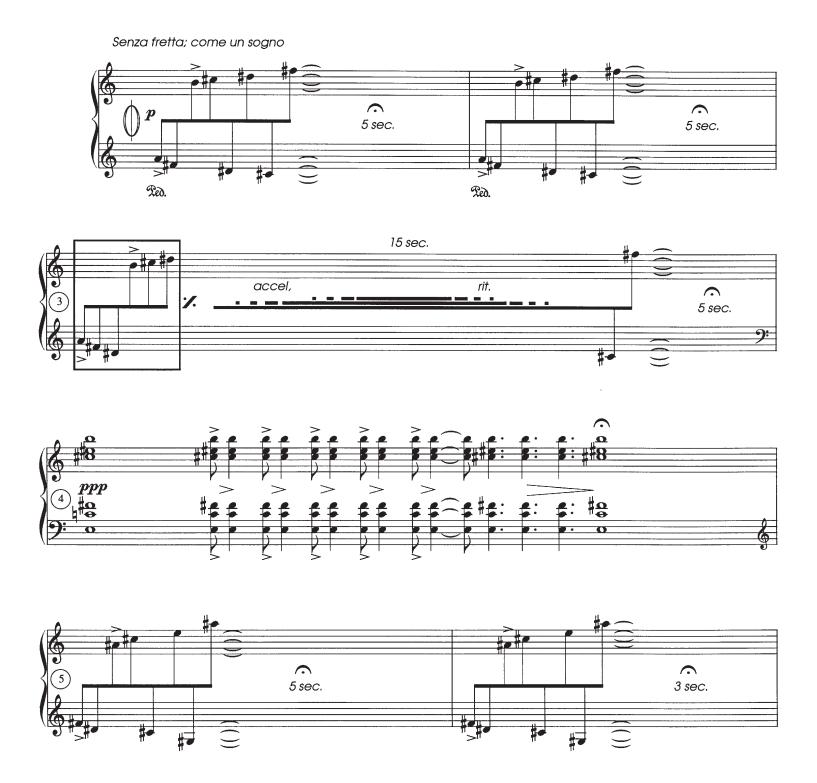






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2. à Schumann: Thumb-piano











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3. à Chopin: White-key Study in African mode





















