

variazioni e un pianoforte meccanico

per pianoforte meccanico
(controllato da MIDI)
e pianista

DREI AUSSCHNITTE:

Teile I – V (Anfang)

Teil IX (Anfang)

Teil IX (Ende)

Chiarenzo Barlo
(1986)

Allgemeines

variazioni e un pianoforte meccanico ist eine Komposition aus dem Jahre 1986 für MIDI-gesteuertes Selbstspielklavier und Pianistenbegleitung („P“), die unweit des Instruments eine zweite Sitzgelegenheit, z.B. einen Sessel benötigt. Das musikalische Material besteht aus einer MIDI-Datei und dieser Partitur. Die MIDI-Datei wird von einem dem Publikum unsichtbaren Computer über MIDI-Kabel abgespielt. Das knapp fünfundzwanzigminütige Stück umfasst neun Variationen über die Arietta aus dem letzten Satz der *Klaversonate Nr. 32 in c-Moll* op.111 von Ludwig van Beethoven. Diese neun wie die Arietta vierteiligen Variationen dauern im Laufe des Stückes von knapp zwei bis über acht Minuten zunehmend und werden in der Partitur mit den römischen Zahlen **I** bis **IX**, die jeweils vier Teile mit den Buchstaben **a** bis **d** markiert. Dieses Stück gehört u.a. zum Genre Musiktheater: zur Aufführung gehört eine ganz bestimmte Dramaturgie, die hierunter beschrieben wird. Wohlüberlegte Abweichungen davon sind möglich. Die gesamte, auch in der Partitur in englischsprachigen Anweisungen angedeutete Dramaturgie ist ohne Noten auswendig (daher auch ohne Notenblätterer!) auszuführen.

Dramaturgisches

Vorm Auftritt muss die MIDI-Datei in einem Computer startklar sein. P hält die Finger auf den im T1 (T=Takt) des Selbstspielklavierparts (Player Piano/Pl.Pno.) notierten Tasten, die sich beim Start der MIDI-Datei bewegen und das Tempo angeben. Die computergespielte, daher im Pianistenpart fehlende Tenorstimme der Arietta gibt das Tempo weitere 28 Takte an. Zuerst sieht alles aus, als handele es sich um eine reine Beethovenaufführung. Im T19 in Teil **Ic** erklingt dann der erste computergespielte beethovenfremde Ton, worauf andere folgen. Erst ab T22 merkt P, dass sich hier etwas Ungewöhnliches ereignet und betrachtet irritiert beim Weiterspiel die wie von unsichtbarer Hand gedrückten Tasten.

In Teil **IIa** (T33+) spielt P die Arietta nochmals, um zu sehen, ob sich diese Fremdeinmischung fortsetzt. Das tut sie, P ist irritiert, schaut suchend auch ins Klavier. Doch in Teil **IIb** (T41+) gewöhnt sich P allmählich daran, scheint das Geschehen in Teil **IIc** (T49+) hinzunehmen. Am Ende von Teil **IId** (T57-65) macht sich P bequemer auf dem Klavierstuhl, um die Arietta ein drittes Mal zu spielen.

In mit Triolen durchsetztem Teil **IIIa** (T65+) scheint P Freude an der Situation gewonnen zu haben. Ein freundlicherer Gesichtsausdruck ist hier angebracht. Doch – wie in Teilen **IIIb** (T73+) und **IIIc** (T81+) deutlich wird – spielt der Computer immer mehr Töne, so dass es auf der Tastatur kaum noch Platz für Ps Finger gibt. Immer seltener gelingt es P, eine Taste zu drücken. (Diese Partitur versucht dem Rechnung zu tragen, indem vom Computer besetzte Beethoventöne aus dem Pianistenpart entfernt sind. Dieses Fehlen von Noten dient als Hinweis beim Üben; bei der Aufführung soll versucht werden, zwar unter Behinderung, einfach die Originalnoten der Arietta auswendig zu spielen.)

In Teil **IIId** (T89-97) wird das Spielen der Arietta fast unmöglich: am Ende des Teils hebt P die Hände leicht und hält sie am Anfang von Teil **IVa** (T98+) über der Tastatur kurz starr. Dann zieht sich P die Hände langsam zurück und legt sie in den Schoß. Bis zum Ende von Teil **IVb** (T124-151) wirkt P nachdenklich, fasst sich z.B. am Kinn, verschränkt sich die Arme, beschaut ruhig die Tastenbewegung.

Zu Beginn von Teil **IVc** (T152+) steht P langsam auf, geht rückwärts (vorsicht!), die Tastatur stets im Blick, zum nahegelegenen Sitz, setzt sich dort am Anfang von Teil **IVd** (T179+) nieder. Dort bleibt P durch die folgenden Variationen längere Zeit still sitzend, relativ starr die Tastatur anblickend, bis zur Rückkehr zum Klavier in Teil **IXd** (T2 in der Partitur von Teil **IXd**), ein paar Minuten vorm Stückende.

In diesem Teil, gerade vor Beginn der Partitur von Teil **IXd** (worauf sich alle weiteren Taktangaben beziehen), beginnt der Computer ein rapides E-Tremolo in drei zweioktavig getrennten Registern, das dann zu G wandert. P wird aufmerksam (T1), steht auf (T2), geht resolut zum Klavier, spielt im Stehen fortissimo, quasi senza tempo, molto rubato mit den zwei Händen zwischen den Tremoloregistern die ersten vier Ariettatakte (T3-7). Dabei „beruhigt“ sich der Computer und – nach kurzer Pause, während P sich setzt – spielt er an die anfänglichen Variationen I und II erinnernde ruhigere Töne, von P mit der Arietta leise begleitet (T8+). Hier sind aus dem Klavierpart die vom Computer gespielten Töne wieder entfernt worden. Von T29 bis 35 hört P auf zu spielen, hebt währenddessen langsam die Hände erneut und zieht sie diesmal langsam auseinander über der Tastatur zu Stellen direkt über den von P im Schlusstakt 36 zu spielenden Tasten. Im Schlusstakt schnellt P die Hände an die Tastatur herunter und spielt die drei letzten Akkorde. Das beendet das Stück.

variazioni e un pianoforte meccanico: 1-[5]

Chiarenzo Barlo (1986)

Ia
♩. = 52

Player Piano

Pianist

waits for player piano with fingers on boxed chord above

p plays synchronous with player piano

con Pedale

Ib

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Ic

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

22 *Id*

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

cresc. — starts to look puzzled at keys *sf > p*

28

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

cresc. —

33 *IIa*
l'istesso tempo

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

sf > p *p* plays theme again, looks puzzled at keys and into piano

37

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

40 **IIb** 3

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

getting used to situation

44

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

47 **IIc**

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

now at ease

50

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

53

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

cresc.

56

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

sf *p*

59

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

62

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

cresc.

Id

The musical score is written for two parts: Piano (Pianist) and Piano (Pl.Pno.). The score is divided into four systems, each containing two staves. The first system (measures 53-55) shows the Pl.Pno. part with a complex rhythmic pattern and the Pianist part with a simple bass line. The second system (measures 56-58) shows the Pl.Pno. part with a complex rhythmic pattern and the Pianist part with a simple bass line. The third system (measures 59-61) shows the Pl.Pno. part with a complex rhythmic pattern and the Pianist part with a simple bass line. The fourth system (measures 62-64) shows the Pl.Pno. part with a complex rhythmic pattern and the Pianist part with a simple bass line. Dynamic markings include *cresc.*, *sf*, and *p*. The *Id* marking is present in the second system.

IIIa

l'istesso tempo

5

65

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

sf *p*

settles more comfortably, looks pleased

67

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

69

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

70

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

71

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

73

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

75

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

77

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

IIIb

shows difficulty in playing

The musical score is arranged in three systems, each containing a Piano (Pl.Pno.) and a Pianoist part. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measure numbers 71, 73, 75, and 77 are indicated at the start of their respective systems. The Pianist part includes a section labeled 'IIIb' and a note 'shows difficulty in playing'.

79

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

80

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

81

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

82

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

IIIc

evidently increasingly difficult to play

The image displays a musical score for a duo consisting of a Piano (Pl. Pno.) and a Pianist. The score is organized into four systems, each corresponding to a measure number (79, 80, 81, 82) on the left. Each system contains two staves: the upper staff is for the Piano and the lower staff is for the Pianist. The Piano part is characterized by intricate triplet patterns and arpeggiated chords, often spanning multiple measures. The Pianist part provides a harmonic foundation with sustained chords and moving lines. In measure 81, the Piano part includes a section labeled 'IIIc' and a performance instruction 'evidently increasingly difficult to play' is written above the Pianist staff. The score is written in a standard musical notation with treble and bass clefs, key signatures, and various musical symbols such as triplets, arpeggios, and slurs.

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

This system contains measures 83 and 84. The Piano (Pl.Pno.) part features a complex texture with many triplets in both the treble and bass staves. The Pianist part is mostly silent, with a few notes in the bass staff at the beginning and end of the system.

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

This system contains measures 84 and 85. The Piano (Pl.Pno.) part continues with triplets. The Pianist part has a long, sustained chord in the treble staff across both measures, with some movement in the bass staff.

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

This system contains measures 85 and 86. The Piano (Pl.Pno.) part has more triplets. The Pianist part features a long, sustained chord in the treble staff and some movement in the bass staff.

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

This system contains measures 86 and 87. The Piano (Pl.Pno.) part continues with triplets. The Pianist part has a long, sustained chord in the treble staff and some movement in the bass staff.

87 9

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

89

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

III d

sf *p*

playing seen almost impossible

90

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

91

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Measures 92-93. The Pl.Pno. part features a complex texture with triplets and sixteenth notes. The Pianist part has a long, sustained chord in the right hand and a single note in the left hand.

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Measures 93-94. The Pl.Pno. part continues with triplets and sixteenth notes. The Pianist part has a long, sustained chord in the right hand and a single note in the left hand.

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Measures 94-95. The Pl.Pno. part features a complex texture with triplets and sixteenth notes. The Pianist part has a long, sustained chord in the right hand and a single note in the left hand.

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Measures 95-96. The Pl.Pno. part features a complex texture with triplets and sixteenth notes. The Pianist part has a long, sustained chord in the right hand and a single note in the left hand.

96 11

Pl.Pno. 6/16

Pianist 6/16

97 IVa

Pl.Pno. 6/16

Pianist 6/16

sf *p* stops playing TACET al IXd

senza Pedale

slowly raises hands... then lays them in lap

100

Pl.Pno.

105

Pl.Pno.

110

Pl.Pno.

115

Pl.Pno.

120

Pl.Pno.

IVb

125

Pl.Pno.

Pianist looks thoughtful, e.g. takes hold of chin, crosses arms, calmly observes the movement of the keys.

130

Pl.Pno.

135

Pl.Pno.

140

Pl.Pno.

144

Pl.Pno.

147 13

Pl.Pno.

152 IVc

Pl.Pno.

Pianist rises slowly, walks, always looking at piano, backwards to nearby seat (25 seconds)

156

Pl.Pno.

160

Pl.Pno.

164

Pl.Pno.

168

Pl.Pno.

172

Pl.Pno.

Pl.Pno.



Pianist sits down, remains seated gazing at keyboard, till IXd (q.v. - 15 minutes)

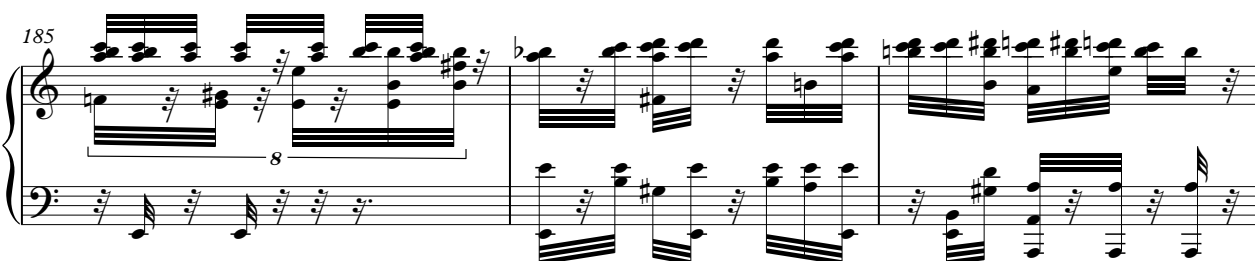
Pl.Pno.



Pl.Pno.



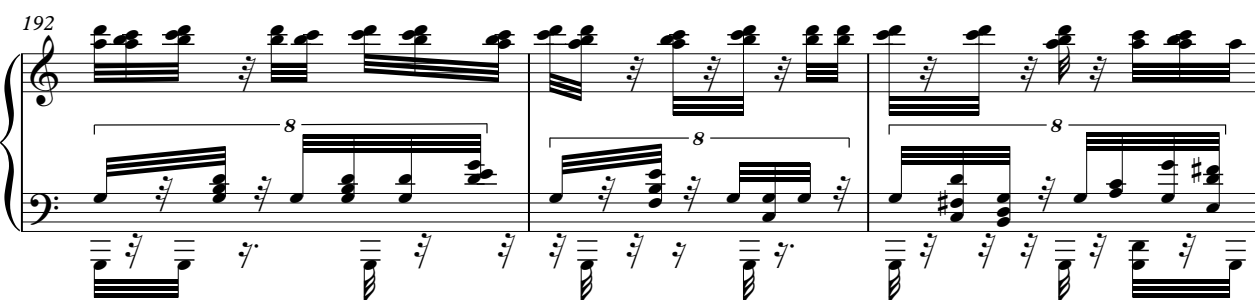
Pl.Pno.



Pl.Pno.



Pl.Pno.



Pl.Pno.

195

Pl.Pno.

199

Pl.Pno.

202

Va (beginning)
l'istesso tempo

Pl.Pno.

205

variazioni e un pianoforte meccanico: IXa-[c]

IXa

♩.=139

Chiarenzo Barlo (1986)

Player Piano

Player Piano musical score, measures 1-3. The score is written for a Player Piano with a 9/16 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩.=139. The music features a complex, rhythmic pattern with many beamed sixteenth notes. The first measure starts with a forte (f) dynamic. The notation includes various accidentals and rests, with some notes marked with a 'z' symbol.

Pianist still seated near piano still gazing at keyboard all the way through this score excerpt

15'43" (demo wav)

Pl.Pno.

Pl.Pno. musical score, measures 4-7. The score continues the complex rhythmic pattern from the previous system. The notation includes various accidentals and rests, with some notes marked with a 'z' symbol.

Pl.Pno.

Pl.Pno. musical score, measures 8-11. The score continues the complex rhythmic pattern from the previous system. The notation includes various accidentals and rests, with some notes marked with a 'z' symbol.

Pl.Pno.

Pl.Pno. musical score, measures 12-15. The score continues the complex rhythmic pattern from the previous system. The notation includes various accidentals and rests, with some notes marked with a 'z' symbol.

Pl.Pno.

Pl.Pno. musical score, measures 16-19. The score continues the complex rhythmic pattern from the previous system. The notation includes various accidentals and rests, with some notes marked with a 'z' symbol.

20

Pl.Pno.

16'08" (demo)

This system contains measures 20 through 23. The right hand features a complex, rapid melodic line with many beamed sixteenth and thirty-second notes. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes. A blue timestamp '16'08" (demo)' is positioned below the first measure.

24

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 24 through 27. The right hand continues with intricate melodic patterns, including some trills and grace notes. The left hand maintains a consistent rhythmic accompaniment.

28

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 28 through 30. The right hand has a more active melodic line with frequent sixteenth-note runs. The left hand accompaniment remains consistent.

31

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 31 through 33. The right hand features a melodic line with several accidentals (sharps and flats). The left hand accompaniment continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

34

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 34 through 36. The right hand has a melodic line with a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes. The left hand accompaniment is consistent.

37

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 37 through 39. The right hand features a melodic line with some grace notes and slurs. The left hand accompaniment continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

40

Pl.Pno.

16'34" (demo)

43

Pl.Pno.

46

Pl.Pno.

49

Pl.Pno.

52

Pl.Pno.

IXb

55

Pl.Pno.

Pl.Pno.

58



16'58" (demo)

Pl.Pno.

61



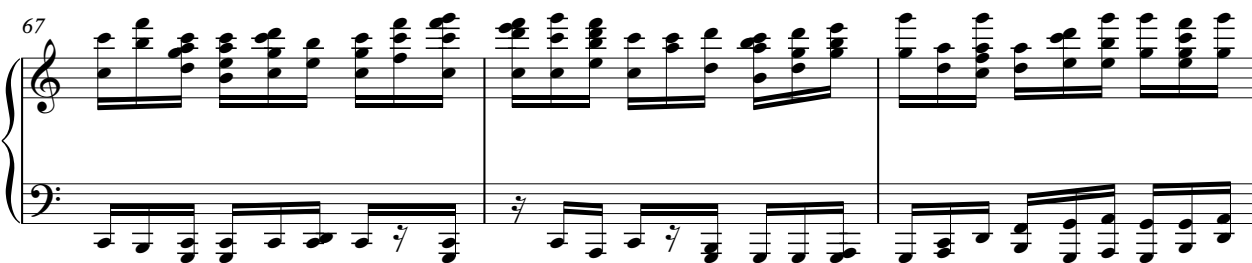
Pl.Pno.

64



Pl.Pno.

67



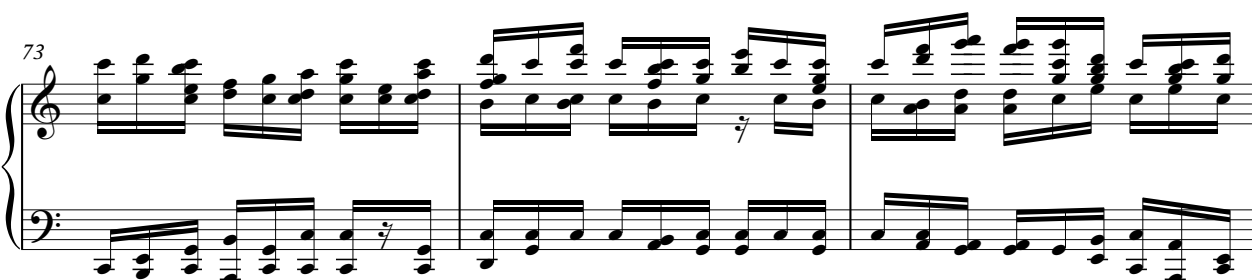
Pl.Pno.

70



Pl.Pno.

73



Pl.Pno.

76

17'21" (demo)

Pl.Pno.

79

Pl.Pno.

82

Pl.Pno.

85

Pl.Pno.

88

Pl.Pno.

91

94

Pl.Pno.

17'44" (demo)

This system contains measures 94, 95, and 96. The right hand features a complex, flowing melody with many beamed sixteenth and thirty-second notes, often in triplets. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes. Measure 95 includes a blue annotation '17'44" (demo)' below the staff.

97

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 97 and 98. The right hand continues with intricate, beamed patterns. The left hand has some rests in measure 97, followed by a more active line in measure 98.

99

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 99 and 100. The right hand shows a change in texture with more block chords and shorter runs. The left hand continues with a rhythmic accompaniment.

101

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 101, 102, and 103. The right hand has a more active, melodic line with frequent beaming. The left hand provides a consistent bass line.

104

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 104, 105, and 106. The right hand features a series of beamed sixteenth notes. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

107

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 107, 108, and 109. The right hand continues with beamed patterns. The left hand has some rests in measure 107, followed by a more active line in measure 108.

Pl.Pno.

110

7

18'05" (demo)

110 111 112

Pl.Pno.

113

113 114

Pl.Pno.

115

115 116 117

Pl.Pno.

118

118 119 120

Pl.Pno.

121

121 122 123

Pl.Pno.

124

124 125

Pl.Pno.

126

126 127 128

Pl.Pno.

18'30" (demo)

This system contains measures 129 and 130. The music is written for piano in a key with one sharp (F#). The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. A blue annotation '18'30" (demo)' is placed below the first staff.

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 131 and 132. The musical texture continues with the right hand playing a melodic line and the left hand providing a rhythmic accompaniment.

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 133, 134, and 135. The right hand's melody becomes more active with sixteenth-note passages, and the left hand continues its accompaniment.

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 136, 137, and 138. The right hand features a more complex melodic line with many beamed sixteenth notes, while the left hand maintains a consistent accompaniment.

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 139 and 140. The right hand's melody is written on a treble clef staff, showing a shift in texture with more frequent rests and longer note values.

Pl.Pno.

This system contains measures 141 and 142. The right hand continues its melodic development on the treble staff, with the left hand providing a supporting accompaniment.

Pl.Pno.

143

9

This system contains measures 143 and 144. Measure 143 is a full measure, while measure 144 is split across two staves. The music features complex chords with many sharps in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

18'48" (demo)

Pl.Pno.

145

This system contains measures 145 and 146. Measure 145 is a full measure, and measure 146 is split across two staves. The right hand continues with dense chordal textures, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment.

Pl.Pno.

147

This system contains measures 147 and 148. Measure 147 is a full measure, and measure 148 is split across two staves. The musical texture remains dense with many sharps and complex voicings.

Pl.Pno.

149

This system contains measures 149 and 150. Measure 149 is a full measure, and measure 150 is split across two staves. The right hand features a series of chords, while the left hand has a more rhythmic accompaniment.

Pl.Pno.

151

This system contains measures 151 and 152. Measure 151 is a full measure, and measure 152 is split across two staves. The music continues with complex harmonic structures and a consistent accompaniment in the left hand.

Pl.Pno.

153

19'01" (demo)

Pl.Pno.

155

decresc.

Pl.Pno.

157

(decresc.)

Pl.Pno.

159

(decresc.)

162

Pl.Pno.

(decresc.)

19'13" (demo)

164

Pl.Pno.

(decresc.)

166

Pl.Pno.

(decresc.)

168

Pl.Pno.

cresc.

170

Pl.Pno.

(cresc.)

ff

12

Pl.Pno. 173

p subito

19'27" (demo)

Pl.Pno. 177

Pl.Pno. 181

Pl.Pno. 185

Pl.Pno. 189

Pl.Pno. 193

Pl.Pno. 197

Pl.Pno. 200

* multiple different accelerations from here on...

variazioni e un pianoforte meccanico: IX[d]

IXd (final 55%)

Chiarenzo Barlo (1986)

Player Piano

Pianist

$\text{♩} = 52$

quasi senza tempo, molto rubato

looks at keys concerned (3 seconds)

rises, walks firmly to piano (5 seconds)

plays, standing: **ff**

22'17.3" (HatHut CD)

22'23" (demo wav)

22'26.6

22'32" (demo)

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

5

8

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

sits down

tempo giusto

p

22'41.6"
22'47" (demo)

Measures 8-11. The Pianist part begins with a rest labeled "sits down" and then plays a series of chords and single notes, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Pl.Pno. part plays a continuous eighth-note accompaniment. The tempo is marked *tempo giusto*. Time markers: 22'41.6", 22'47" (demo).

12

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Measures 12-15. The Pianist part continues with chords and single notes. The Pl.Pno. part continues with eighth-note accompaniment. The Pianist part has some accents marked with "<" and ">".

16

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

Measures 16-19. The Pianist part continues with chords and single notes. The Pl.Pno. part continues with eighth-note accompaniment.

20

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

3

24

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

cresc.

cresc.

27

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

(cresc.) *sf* *p*

(cresc.) *sf* *p*

29

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

tacet al 

very slowly raises
hands above keyboard



23'54.2"
24'00" (demo)

32

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

slowly separates hands in the air
to above the keys next to be played



34

Pl.Pno.

Pianist

quickly lowers
hands to keyboard  *sf*  *p*

