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Prelude in C Major

Agitato

Op. 28, No. 1

1

mf

4

8

12

cresc.

- (a) Although the notation of the lowest treble voice is rhythmically inexact, the meaning is clear. It is given here as it appears in Chopin's manuscript except that all notes played by the right hand appear on the upper staff.
- (b) Most editions show the pedal sustained for the full measure, for each of the first 32 measures. In the Autograph, the pedal indications differ from measure to measure, as we show them. In the 23rd measure, Chopin wrote one of the pedal releases just after the last note of the measure, then scratched it out and rewrote it under the next-to-last note. This seems to be evidence that all the pedal marks were carefully placed. We leave the decision to the individual.

Prelude in A Minor

Op. 28, No. 2

Lento

The musical score is presented in a grand staff format. The left hand (bass clef) plays a steady accompaniment of eighth notes, while the right hand (treble clef) plays a melodic line. The tempo is marked 'Lento'. The piece begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The score includes several measures with fingerings and articulation marks. Measure numbers 2, 5, 9, 13, and 17 are highlighted in boxes. There are three specific annotations: (a) in measure 2, (b) in measures 5-8 and 17-19, and (c) at the end of the piece. The piece concludes with a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking and a *slentando* (ritardando) marking in the final measures.

- (a) The two-part writing used in the first two measures emphasizes the importance of the upper voice of the accompaniment. It is possible that Chopin intended the notes with stems up to be played with the right hand, as he often did when he used two-part writing in similar instances in other compositions.
- (b) In the Autograph, each of the appoggiaturas in this selection is written without a cross-stroke.
- (c) This is the only pedal indication in this Prelude, in the Autograph.