

PETER ILICH TCHAIKOVSKY

VARIATIONS ON A
ROCOOCO THEME, Op. 33

FOR VIOLONCELLO
AND PIANO

ARRANGED BY
WILHELM FITZENHAGEN

EDITED BY
JANOS STARKER

IN COLLABORATION WITH
EMILIO COLÓN

LUDWIG *Masters*
PUBLICATIONS

Copyright © 2008 Masters Music Publications (ASCAP).
International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved.

My guiding principle in preparing these editions remains the same as in seven decades of aiding and assisting young, middle-aged and old colleagues. The purpose is not to induce players to follow slavishly my suggestions, because they are suggestions based on underlying rules of string playing. If a player reaches proficiency in handling the bow and masters the geography of the finger board, any number of possibilities becomes available to play a melody or a passage. The decisions, therefore, are led by musical considerations, which are highly subjective, and by mechanical issues which are more definable.

There are a number of rules that I follow concerning the left hand, and most of them have to do with position changes:

1. Avoid unnecessary motions.
2. Change at smaller distances.
3. Avoid contrary motions in succession.
4. In distant connections use higher fingers to lower fingers or the same finger, so as to allow the rotation of the forearm, and to continue to touch the strings at an identical angle. This aspect has been the basis of my approach, so as to observe centered intonation and controlled vibrato.

The decision to use anticipated or delayed shifts is a musical one, and requires the knowledge of the timing, finger choice and bowing. Differences in body and size, and of stretching ability require different solutions. Some of the bowings require the use of a specific part of the bow. Therefore I advise deviations from my suggestions, but based on these considerations, not on ingrained habits.

I hope my editions will encourage experimentation and lead to more advanced executions.

Professor Emilio Colón has earned my gratitude for his insistence and assistance in preparing these publications.

Janos Starker

Tchaikovsky: Variations on a Rococo Theme

This edition is based on the long-familiar version by Wilhelm Fitzenhagen. The argument rages over its validity, versus the original Tchaikovsky manuscript which has one more variation and follows a different order. Recently an English writer suggested that the work be put into something like a dust-bin of history. Well, I have no objection to the original, but my taste buds prefer the Fitzenhagen, as do most of my illustrious colleagues of the past century. I love the work's references to the classical style, the virtuosic use of the instrument and its careful orchestration, all of which hopefully avoid romantic excesses.

J.S.
Bloomington
2007

Variationen über ein Rokoko-Thema.

P. Tschaikowsky, Op. 33.

Moderato assai, quasi Andante.

Violoncello.

Klavier.

Moderato assai, quasi Andante.

p *cresc.* *p*

p *mf* *dim.* *p*

p *f* *accel.* *rit.* *tempo*

p *dim.* *pp* *p espr.*

Thema.

Moderato semplice.

This musical score is for a piece titled "Thema. Moderato semplice." in 2/4 time, marked with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The score is written for a single melodic line and a piano accompaniment.

The score is divided into five systems:

- System 1:** The melodic line begins with a series of eighth notes, followed by a glissando. The piano accompaniment starts with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic and includes a *staccato* section.
- System 2:** Features first and second endings. The piano accompaniment has a *p* (piano) dynamic.
- System 3:** Continues the first and second endings. The piano accompaniment has a *pp* dynamic.
- System 4:** The melodic line features a *f* (forte) dynamic. The piano accompaniment has a *p* dynamic.
- System 5:** The final system, featuring a *rit.* (ritardando) marking in both the melodic and piano parts.

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings (*pp*, *f*, *p*, *staccato*, *gliss.*, *rit.*).



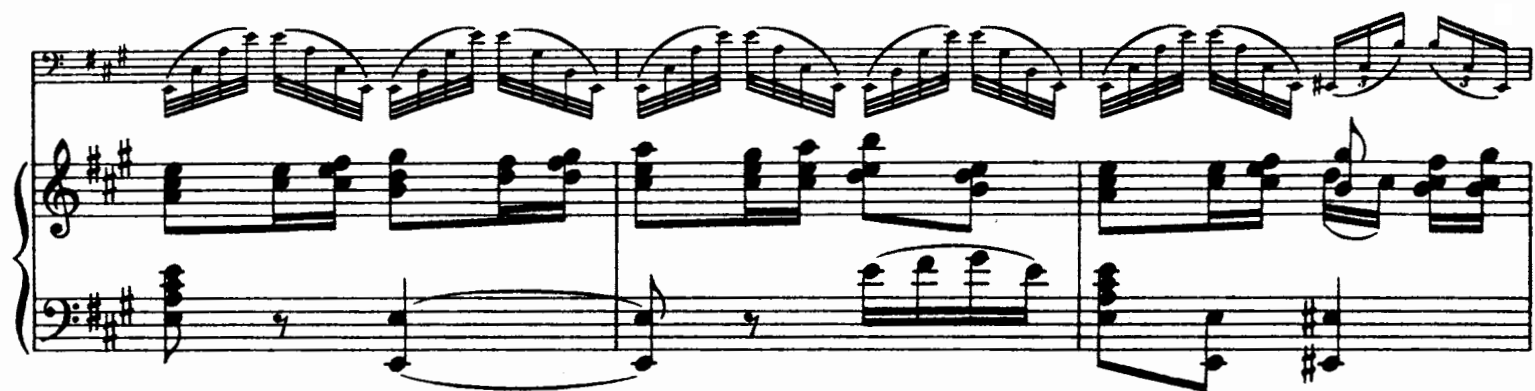
First system of musical notation. The top staff features a continuous sixteenth-note melody. The piano accompaniment in the bottom two staves consists of chords and eighth notes. Dynamics include *f* and *cresc.* in the top staff, and *mf* in the bottom staff.



Second system of musical notation. The top staff continues the sixteenth-note melody. The piano accompaniment features chords and eighth notes. Dynamics include *p* and *cresc.* in the top staff, and *cresc.* and *f* in the bottom staff.



Third system of musical notation. The top staff continues the sixteenth-note melody. The piano accompaniment features chords and eighth notes. Dynamics include *f* in the top staff, and *f* in the bottom staff.



Fourth system of musical notation. The top staff continues the sixteenth-note melody. The piano accompaniment features chords and eighth notes. Dynamics include *f* in the top staff, and *f* in the bottom staff.



Fifth system of musical notation. The top staff continues the sixteenth-note melody. The piano accompaniment features chords and eighth notes. Dynamics include *f* in the top staff, and *f* in the bottom staff.

This page of musical notation consists of five systems of staves, each containing a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is D major (two sharps). The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

System 1: The vocal line begins with a *fp* (fortissimo piano) dynamic and a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking. The piano accompaniment also features a *fp* dynamic and a *cresc.* marking.

System 2: The vocal line is marked *ff* (fortissimo) and includes a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. The piano accompaniment also includes a *rit.* marking.

System 3: The vocal line is marked *a tempo* and includes a *p* (piano) dynamic. The piano accompaniment is marked *a tempo* and includes a *f* (forte) dynamic.

System 4: The vocal line is marked *cresc.* (crescendo). The piano accompaniment is marked *cresc.* (crescendo).

System 5: The vocal line is marked *ff* (fortissimo) and includes a *pesante* marking. The piano accompaniment is marked *ff* (fortissimo).

Variations on a Rococo Theme

1

Violoncello

Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky, Op. 33

Edited by Janos Starker

in collaboration with Emilio Colón

Moderato assai, quasi andante

Thema - Moderato semplice

17 *tutti* 2-18

25 *f* *p*

31 *f* *pp*

38 1. 2. 5 *f* *p* *rit.* II

41-45

Variation I

a tempo - Tempo des Themas

48 1 3 2 2 3 1 4 2 2 4

51 II 0 1 1

54 *cresc.* II *f* *più f*

57 1 2 3 2 4 4 4 1 1 2

60 *p* 1

63 5 *tutti* 2 3 *rit.* 4 *p* *mf*

65-69

Copyright ©2008 LUDWIGMASTERS PUBLICATIONS, LLC

M 4074

All Rights Reserved

Printed in the U.S.A.

Variation II

Tempo des Themas

ossia spiccato

72 *f* *mf* *p*

75 *f* *mf* *p*

79 *f* *mf* *p*

83 *f* *ff* *mf*

86 *f*

90 *f* *tutti* *mf* *cresc.*

93-97

99 *f* *a piacere* *III* *dim.* *p* *pp* *rall.*

Variation III

Andante sostenuto

105 *p cantabile* *cresc.*

111 *f* *p*

117 *f* *p* *cresc.*

376 *p* *cresc.* *f*

379 *ff*

382 *cresc.*

385 *fff* *tr*

388 *fp cresc.*

393 *ff* *rit.*

396 *f* *p* *a tempo*

399 *f* *p* *cresc.*

402

405 *fff* *pesante*

Original cadenza

4
0
2

1

1

0

13

p

ossia:

f

V

III

lento

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

largamente

4

V

tr

p

pp