

# Variations on the theme of G minor Sicilienne by J.S.Bach

for two pianos 8 hands

Original music by J.S. Bach  
Theme arrangement by Mack Wilberg  
Variations by Christine Cheng

## *Theme*

### *Variation I -*

*Dizzy John*

### *Variation II -*

*to Argentina*

### *Variation III -*

*Sergei hides an old music box*

### *Variation IV -*

*John's back on a sunday morning*

#### INDEX FOR PERFORMANCE:

##### **Theme**

The entire theme is written by Mack Wilberg, only the last measure that leads to variation I might need to stretch more on the rit. for a smooth tempo transition.

##### **Var. I**

only change pedal once every bar

always play half staccato in a light touch throughout unless indicated with slurs

Despite the seemingly confusing accidentals this variation does progress with traditional harmony

##### **Var. II**

note head as  $\times$  = foot tapping, a more crisp type of sound made by tapping the front part of foot to the ground instead of stomping with the weight of the whole leg. Performers might consider wearing high heels or shoes with hard bases.

note head as  $\blacktriangle$  = clapping hands or tapping on wooden part of piano with a ring on the finger, so that light taps can produce good effect

staccatos should be played very short

the mute tremolo on piano 1.1 should be as long as the tension goes therefore some conducting from piano 1.1 might be needed for the others to join in at the end of it

the meter of  $7/8$  should be counted as 3 + 2 + 2

Pedal at performers' discretion

##### **Var. III**

there should not be any delay from the previous variation

the crossing hands of the middle section should be carried out in a dance-like fashion, slowly and dreamy

Pedal at performers' discretion

##### **Var. IV**

mostly legato but be reminded to play in the fashion of a baroque fugue

# Variation on a theme of Bach's Sicilienne

Original theme by J.S. Bach  
Theme Arrangement by Mack Wilberg  
Variations by Christine Cheng

**Andante espressivo** ♩ = 96

Piano 1.1

*mp espressivo*

**Andante espressivo** ♩ = 96

Piano 1.2

**Andante espressivo** ♩ = 96

Piano 2.1

**Andante espressivo** ♩ = 96

Piano 2.2

5

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

10

Pno 1.1

*mf*

Pno 1.2

*mf*

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

15

Pno 1.1

(L.H. off)

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

Piano score for measures 17-20. The score is divided into four systems: Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. Pno 1.1 features a complex melodic line with slurs and accents, marked with a '20' above the fourth measure. Pno 1.2 provides harmonic support with chords and a single note in the right hand marked '(R.H. off)'. Pno 2.1 and Pno 2.2 have more active parts, with Pno 2.2 showing a descending line in the bass.



Piano score for measures 21-24. The score is divided into four systems: Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. Pno 1.1 starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and moves to mezzo-forte (*mf*). Pno 1.2 also moves to *mf*. Pno 2.1 and Pno 2.2 are marked *mp espressivo*. Pno 2.1 has a very active, slurred melodic line, while Pno 2.2 has a more rhythmic accompaniment.

25

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

(L.H. off)

(off)

(off)

(off)

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

30

sub. pp (bell like)

sub. pp (bell like)

sub. pp (bell like)

(off)

rit .....

a tempo

sub. pp (bell like)



Piano score for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. The score is in a key with two flats and a 3/4 time signature. Pno 1.1 features a melodic line with a fermata and a measure marked '35'. Pno 1.2 provides harmonic support with chords and moving bass lines. Pno 2.1 and Pno 2.2 play more rhythmic and melodic parts, with Pno 2.1 having a complex texture of sixteenth notes.



Continuation of the piano score for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. Pno 1.1 continues with a melodic line. Pno 1.2 has a more active bass line. Pno 2.1 features a section marked '8va' with a dashed line, indicating an octave shift. Pno 2.2 continues with its rhythmic accompaniment.

40

Piano score for measures 40-44, featuring four staves: Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. The music is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. Pno 1.1 and Pno 2.1 play a melodic line with slurs and ties. Pno 1.2 and Pno 2.2 provide harmonic support with chords and moving bass lines.



45

Piano score for measures 45-49, featuring four staves: Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. The music continues in the same key and time signature. Pno 1.1 has a dynamic marking of *mp*. Pno 2.1 has a dynamic marking of *p*. Pno 1.2 and Pno 2.2 continue their harmonic roles with various dynamics and articulations.

Piano score for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. The score includes a measure number '50' above the first staff. The music is in a key with two flats and a 3/4 time signature. Pno 1.1 and Pno 2.1 feature complex melodic lines with slurs and ties, while Pno 1.2 and Pno 2.2 provide harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.



Var. I - Dizzy John

Piano score for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2, marked 'rit.' and 'Largo' with a tempo of 40. The score includes a measure number '55' above the first staff. The music is in a key with two flats and a 3/4 time signature. Pno 1.1 features a complex melodic line with slurs and ties, while Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2 provide harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. The score concludes with a double bar line and the word 'Ped.' written below the staves.

half staccato throughout unless slurred

Pno 1.1

L.H. over *pp*, very steady

60

half staccato throughout unless slurred

Pno 1.2

*pp*

*mp*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

half staccato throughout unless slurred

Pno 2.1

*pp*

*mp*, top note more

half staccato throughout unless slurred

Pno 2.2

*pp*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.



Pno 1.1

65

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

*8va*

Pno 2.2

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2



Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

Var. II - A trip to Argentina

11 **accel.** ..... **Allegretto** ♩ = 188

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2



Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

(8) 85

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2



90

Pno 1.1

*piu cantabile*

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

8va

Piano score for measures 1-4, measures 5-8, and measures 9-12. The score is divided into four systems: Pno 1.1 (two staves), Pno 1.2 (two staves), Pno 2.1 (two staves), and Pno 2.2 (two staves). Pno 1.1 features a complex rhythmic pattern with sixteenth and thirty-second notes. Pno 1.2 and Pno 2.2 provide harmonic support with chords and moving bass lines. Pno 2.1 includes *8va* markings for the upper register.



Piano score for measures 13-15, measures 16-18, and measures 19-21. The score is divided into four systems: Pno 1.1 (two staves), Pno 1.2 (two staves), Pno 2.1 (two staves), and Pno 2.2 (two staves). Pno 1.1 continues with complex rhythmic patterns and includes *8va* markings. Pno 1.2 and Pno 2.2 continue with harmonic support. Pno 2.1 features a more active melodic line with sixteenth notes.

Pno 1.1

100

8va

8va

8va

Prepare to stand up

\* L.H. mute str. inside piano

*piu f*

Pno 1.2

3

3

*sfp*

Pno 2.1

*piu f*

Pno 2.2

3



Pno 1.1

8

8

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

105

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

*cresc.*



110

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

*molto cresc.*

*sfz*

*f*

*molto dim.*

*sfz* *p* *f* *3* *sfz*

Var III - Sergei hides  
an old music box

**Con brio** ♩ = 80

Pno 1.1 *f*

Pno 1.2 *mf*

Pno 2.1 *f*

Pno 2.2 *f*

115

8<sup>va</sup>

Much Slower, ♩ = 78

120

125

Pno 1.1

*slowly lands on new position*

*p*

Much Slower, ♩ = 78

*8va*

Pno 1.2

*slowly lands on new position*

*pp*

Much Slower, ♩ = 78

Pno 2.1

*slowly lands on new position*

*pp*

Much Slower, ♩ = 78

Pno 2.2

*slowly lands on new position*

*pp*



130

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

(8)

Pno 2.1

*8va*

Pno 2.2

Piano score for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. The score consists of four systems. Pno 1.1 and Pno 2.1 have a circled '8' above the first measure of their respective staves. Pno 1.2 and Pno 2.2 have a circled '8' above the first measure of their respective staves. The word 'rit.' is written above the final measure of Pno 1.2 and Pno 2.2. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Section starting at measure 135, marked **Con brio** with a tempo of ♩ = 82. The score consists of four systems for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. Pno 1.1 and Pno 2.1 start with a dynamic of *f* and end with *sub. p*. Pno 1.2 starts with a dynamic of *mf* and ends with *sub. p*. Pno 2.2 starts with a dynamic of *f* and ends with *sub. mp*. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

140

8va

Pno 1.1 *mf*

Pno 1.2 *f*

Pno 2.1 *mf*

Pno 2.2 *f*



145

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2 *ff*

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2 *ff*

Var. IV - John's back  
on a sunday morning

(8)  $\text{♩} = 82$  150

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

155

Piano score for measures 155-159. The score is divided into four parts: Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. Pno 1.1 features a complex melodic line with many accidentals. Pno 1.2 has a simple bass line. Pno 2.1 has a rhythmic accompaniment with a *mf* dynamic marking. Pno 2.2 has a bass line with a *f* dynamic marking. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 159.



160

Piano score for measures 160-163. The score is divided into four parts: Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. Pno 1.1 has a melodic line with a *f* dynamic marking. Pno 1.2 has a rhythmic accompaniment. Pno 2.1 has a melodic line with a *f* dynamic marking. Pno 2.2 has a bass line with a *f* dynamic marking. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 163.

8<sup>va</sup>-----165

Piano score for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. The system includes dynamic markings *mf* and *mp*.



Piano score for Pno 1.1, Pno 1.2, Pno 2.1, and Pno 2.2. The system includes a dynamic marking *mf*.

170

Piano score for measures 170-174. The score is divided into four systems, each with two staves:

- Pno 1.1:** Treble clef. Features a complex melodic line with many sixteenth notes and some slurs.
- Pno 1.2:** Treble clef. Features a melodic line with some rests and slurs.
- Pno 2.1:** Treble clef. Features a melodic line with many sixteenth notes and slurs.
- Pno 2.2:** Bass clef. Features a melodic line with many sixteenth notes and slurs.

There are dynamic markings (crescendos) in measures 171 and 172 across all parts.



175

Piano score for measures 175-179. The score is divided into four systems, each with two staves:

- Pno 1.1:** Treble clef. Features a melodic line with many sixteenth notes and slurs.
- Pno 1.2:** Treble clef. Features a melodic line with many sixteenth notes and slurs.
- Pno 2.1:** Treble clef. Features a melodic line with many sixteenth notes and slurs.
- Pno 2.2:** Bass clef. Features a melodic line with many sixteenth notes and slurs.

There are dynamic markings (crescendos) in measures 176 and 177 across all parts.

At the bottom right of the page, there is a marking: **8vb** with a dashed line extending to the right.

8<sup>va</sup>-----

Pno 1.1

*piu p*

*stretto*

Pno 1.2

*piu p*

Pno 2.1

*piu p*

Pno 2.2

(8).....



180

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

*stretto*

Pno 2.1

*stretto*

Pno 2.2

*stretto*

185

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

Pno 1.1

Pno 1.2

Pno 2.1

Pno 2.2

