Distraction / Wings

for piano

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Completion date: January 10th, 2017.

A.

This piece must be played in a constantly changing, fluid tempo. To achieve this, start at any tempo you like and play mostly straight, with light rubato where you feel it may do good. After three or more beamed passages you're to change the tempo to something else. Not necessarily a dramatic change, perhaps even as slight as ♩ = 100 after ♩ = 90. The last note of any beamed passage may be held for a comparatively long time, as if to mark the end of a section. There may also be a pause after such a held note, and indeed after any beamed passage, even if it overlaps with another. After three or more beamed passages change the tempo again, and keep changing it throughout the piece, provided that each time you change it, you are to play at least three consecutive beamed passages in that tempo.

In general, you will find that slower tempi work best for most of the piece (some passages are very beautiful at ♩ = 20 for example) while a few passages will work wonderfully when played as very quick flourishes. Acceleration and deceleration can be used at any time and for any duration as long as one does not immediately follow the other – don't turn the piece into a regular sequence of accelerating and decelerating passages.

The total duration of the piece must be at least four minutes. Each new key signature completely cancels out the previous one. Uniform *mezzo piano* dynamics (with some exceptions if desired).

B.

The instructions above may be interpreted in a way that allows you to play the entire piece more or less in roughly the same tempo. In this case when providing the title for a programme etc., please give it as *Distraction (monochrome version)*.

C.

The top line of this piece may be performed solo, in which case *ad lib* pedaling must be employed, in which at least a third of the notes are played with no pedal and at least a quarter of all beamed passages contain pedal changes. The tempo must be kept more or less the same throughout the piece, and the total duration should be at least four and a half minutes. The title of the piece is then changed to *Wings*. This way, *Distraction* is an improvisation in tempi, and *Wings* is an improvisation in pedaling.

Distraction / Wings

Jashiin
2017

Piano

Ped.

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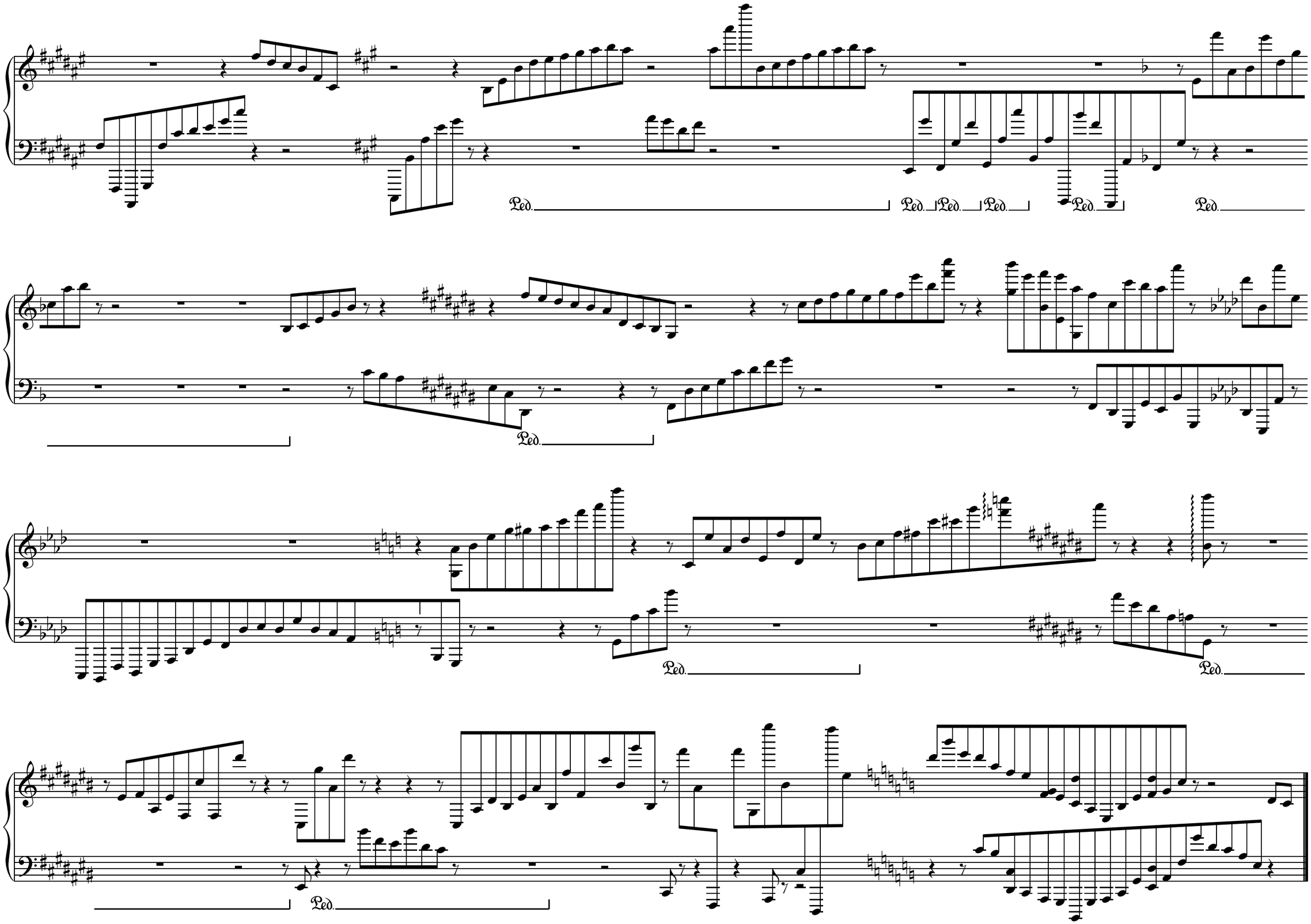
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