

Domenico SCARLATTI (1685-1757)

Sonata in F minor K481

INTERMEDIATE

Playing tips: This poignant sonata, accessible to most players, is one of our editor's favourites. About the ornaments: The four-note ornament at bar 2 should start on the upper note, but a simple crushed note (an acciaccatura from the note above) is also possible, and occasionally the three-note ornament can work too. The opening may be calm, but by bar 9 a more searching quality enters. At bar 17 onwards, the LH chords can be rolled (arpeggiated). The second section (from bar 36) is even more

tense, with a *mezzo-forte* bar echoed *piano*. Give the LH descending arpeggios at bar 44 and elsewhere a detached articulation. The opening returns at bar 52, but already at bar 55 we are 'surprised'. The fingering of 1-1-1 in the RH at bar 61 might seem odd, but it works.

Pedal tips: A dab here and there, to round off phrases and to create legato when this is not possible with the fingers alone.

Andante e cantabile

The image displays the first 13 measures of the Sonata in F minor, K481 by Domenico Scarlatti. The score is written for piano and is in the key of F minor (three flats) and common time (C). The tempo and mood are marked 'Andante e cantabile'. The piece begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The first system (measures 1-4) features a treble clef with a descending eighth-note melody and a bass clef with a simple harmonic accompaniment. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-4. The second system (measures 5-8) shows the melody becoming more active with sixteenth-note runs and ornaments. The dynamic shifts to mezzo-forte (*mf*). The third system (measures 9-12) is marked piano (*p*) and features a more searching quality in the melody. The fourth system (measures 13) continues the melodic development with ornaments and descending lines. The bass line throughout consists of simple chords and arpeggiated patterns.

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16

2 3 3

mf

19

1 2 3 5 3 2

22

1 2 1 3

f

25

2 5 3 2 1 5 3 1

mp

28

3 2 5 1 3

p

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31

Musical notation for measures 31-33. Measure 31 features a treble clef with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of three flats (F minor). The melody includes a triplet of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4) and a quarter note (Bb4). Measure 32 continues with a quarter note (C5), a quarter note (Bb4), and a quarter note (A4). Measure 33 begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and features a triplet of eighth notes (G4, F4, E4) and a quarter note (D4). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5. A double bar line with repeat dots is at the end of measure 33.

34

Musical notation for measures 34-37. Measure 34 starts with a dynamic marking of *mp* and a triplet of eighth notes (C5, Bb4, A4). Measure 35 has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a quarter note (G4). Measure 36 has a dynamic marking of *p* and a triplet of eighth notes (F4, E4, D4). Measure 37 continues with a quarter note (C4), a quarter note (Bb3), and a quarter note (A3). A double bar line with repeat dots is at the end of measure 37.

38

Musical notation for measures 38-41. Measure 38 has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a triplet of eighth notes (G4, F4, E4). Measure 39 has a dynamic marking of *p* and a triplet of eighth notes (D4, C4, Bb3). Measure 40 has a quarter note (A3) and a quarter note (G3). Measure 41 has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a triplet of eighth notes (F3, E3, D3). A double bar line with repeat dots is at the end of measure 41.

42

Musical notation for measures 42-44. Measure 42 has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a quarter note (C4). Measure 43 has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a quarter note (Bb3). Measure 44 has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a quarter note (A3). A double bar line with repeat dots is at the end of measure 44.

45

Musical notation for measures 45-48. Measure 45 has a dynamic marking of *mp* and a quarter note (G4). Measure 46 has a dynamic marking of *mp* and a quarter note (F4). Measure 47 has a dynamic marking of *mp* and a quarter note (E4). Measure 48 has a dynamic marking of *mp* and a quarter note (D4). A double bar line with repeat dots is at the end of measure 48.

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49

Musical notation for measures 49-51. Treble clef has a melodic line with a trill on the final note. Bass clef has a steady accompaniment of chords.

52

p *mf*

Musical notation for measures 52-55. Treble clef has a melodic line with a trill on the final note. Bass clef has a steady accompaniment of chords. Dynamics *p* and *mf* are indicated.

56

Musical notation for measures 56-59. Treble clef has a melodic line with trills and triplets. Bass clef has a steady accompaniment of chords.

60

Musical notation for measures 60-62. Treble clef has a melodic line with trills and triplets. Bass clef has a steady accompaniment of chords.

63

Musical notation for measures 63-66. Treble clef has a melodic line with trills and triplets. Bass clef has a steady accompaniment of chords. The piece ends with a repeat sign.