

Carl CZERNY (1791-1857)

Study in D op 187 no 49

BEGINNER

A pupil of Beethoven and the teacher of Liszt, Carl Czerny helped to establish piano technique in an era when the instrument was being transformed from the Classical-era keyboard into the more powerful instrument we know today. Czerny made his concert debut at the age of ten and was regarded as a foremost interpreter of Beethoven's music, but he turned away from a performing career

to teach and compose. He wrote volumes of technical etudes as well as other works (over 800 in all), including sonatas, choral works and symphonies.

Pedal tips: There are pedal markings in the score, but try practising the piece first without the pedal, adding it later when you have learned the piece.

Take a look at the technical tips within the score.

The key is D major (note the two sharps in the key signature).

The RH needs to 'sing' the melody here. Sing it aloud first.

Fingering: Follow the marked fingering but try different fingerings if they suit your hand better.

Allegretto ♩ = c.92

Notice the small crescendo/decrescendo within this bar.

The F# needs to sound out strongly below, as it needs to last almost a full bar.

Try to keep the LH extremely even. Make sure that the thumbs don't stick out! In each bar, the first note in the LH can sound a bit more pronounced.

LH notes are the same as the beginning bar.

Here the LH introduces a new note of B. It's almost 'warning' us of a new colour to come.

The F# at the start of the bar comes as a surprise. Make sure to pronounce it.

The melody in the RH in this second 4-bar phrase is the 'answer' to the first four bars.

The forte marking shows us we are at the high point of the piece.

You need to get the LH prepared for these awkward notes in this bar.

Even if not marked, feel free to make a small ritardando and diminuendo towards the end.

The change of LH fingering on the E in bar 11 allows the hand to be ready for the lower D in bar 12.

In the LH, there's a big jump between the last note in bar 12 and the first note in bar 13. Get the hand ready for this sudden big movement.

Lift both hands exactly at the same time on the final quaver rest!