

Piano Sonata No. 5

Composer: Avner Dorman
Year: 2016
Duration: 8 min
Orchestration: pf
Publisher: G Schirmer Inc

Program Note

Composer note

While growing up in Israel I learned to play the piano, and soon became enamored of the instrument and its repertoire. I enthusiastically attended the Rubinstein Competition several times, and was inspired by the virtuoso playing and the extensive range of works I heard.

This piece, my fifth piano sonata, celebrates the high level of performance that competitors display and gives them the opportunity to showcase different aspects of their playing.

The sonata explores the hues of the modern piano which don't always feature in conventional repertoire, while including techniques particular to the piano, which are neither routine nor banal.

The sonata has two movements, sharing the same key, each exploring different elements of the piano's potential.

The opening movement, a fantasy, is a bit like an improvisation, with changes in rhythm, color, and shape.

The second is a joyful showcase of elated, boundless energy.

Many rhythms are inspired by West African music, and the colors of harmony and melody draw on other cultures. While written in traditional sonata form, this short

virtuoso piece also allows pianists to express their own modern, global insights.

— Avner Dorman

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