

Program Notes

Two Sketches offers a contrast in musical experiences. The first is somewhat foreboding, yet also intimate. The other is forceful and full of energy, always driving forward.

In the first movement, this motive that appears first in the piano is the principal source of the material in this movement, and it also presents a kind of summary of what is going on musically with the descending chromatic line that leaps upward trying to escape, only to be pulled back downward.

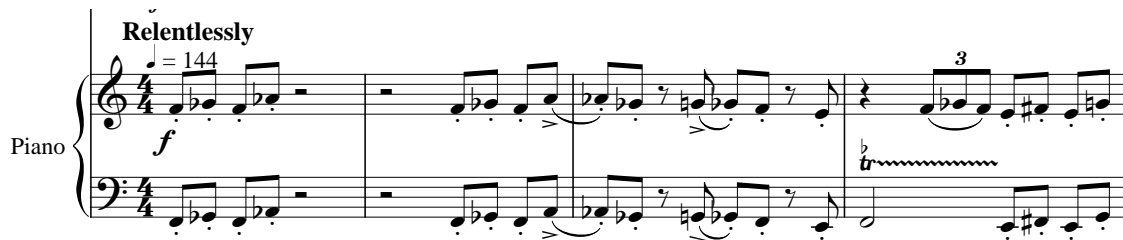
Dark, but with expression



The musical notation is in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 56. The melody starts with a descending chromatic line: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1. This is followed by an upward leap to F2, then a descending chromatic line: E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1. The piece ends with a final note on G1.

The motive of the second movement owes its inspiration to the film music of John Williams, particularly to Episode I of the Star Wars series. The ostinato pattern Williams uses to underscore the Jedi duels makes the music powerful and relentless. I state a variant of his four-note motive, and then restate it, combining it with the descending chromatic line from the first movement.

Relentlessly



The musical notation is in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 144 and a dynamic marking of *f*. The melody consists of a four-note ostinato pattern: G4, F4, E4, D4. This pattern is repeated throughout the piece. In the third measure, there is a triplet of notes: G4, F4, E4. The piece ends with a final note on G4.