

Piano Prelude 2025
...Balkan Gipsy fixation...

Don Freund

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is an obsessive response to the frenetic energy of a wild klezmerish song "Od Ebra do Dunava" by the fascinating "Barcelona Gipsy balkan Orchestra," and two of musical features that drive it. I was haunted by the tension created by hanging on to the 4th degree of the scale before resolving — this prelude could be subtitled "1-2-FOUR.....321" where 4 is F# in C# minor. The other borrowed fixation added to the mix is a rocking 7/16 pulse, which becomes more and more primal as the piece moves on.

Duration: 4 – 5 minutes

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♩ = 144

p *f*

6 *p* *f*

13 *mf* *ffz* *mp* *f* Ped. \lfloor

20 *f* Ped. \lfloor

25 *mf* *f* Ped. \lfloor Ped. \lfloor Ped. \lfloor

8^{ba}

Sost. \lfloor

3 1 2 1 3

3 1 4 5

1 4 1 1 3 4

Detailed description: This is a piano score for a piece titled 'Piano Prelude 2025' by Don Freund, with the subtitle '...Balkan Gipsy fixation...'. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 144. The score is divided into five systems of music. The first system (measures 1-5) features a treble clef with complex chords and a bass clef with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics range from piano (*p*) to forte (*f*). A performance instruction '8^{ba}' is present. The second system (measures 6-12) continues the accompaniment with a melodic line in the treble. Dynamics include *p* and *f*. The third system (measures 13-19) shows a more active bass line with dynamics *mf*, *ffz*, *mp*, and *f*. It includes a 'Sost.' (Sostenuto) marking and a pedal instruction. The fourth system (measures 20-24) features a rapid melodic line in the treble with dynamics *f* and a pedal instruction. The fifth system (measures 25-29) continues with complex textures and multiple pedal instructions. Fingering numbers are provided for several passages.

31

sfz *mf* *f* *mf, bright*

2 3 7

36

f, intrusive *mf, percussive*

4 5 7

8va.

40

ff, intrusive *mf, biting* *f, articulate*

4 7 3 7

46

mf, biting *f, articulate*

7 3 2 7 5

53

mf, cruising

7

58

7

catch fire

3

62

Musical notation for measures 62-65. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The lower staff has a bass clef. Measure 62 starts with a 2-measure rest in the upper staff. Dynamics include *f*. There are triplets in both staves.

66

Musical notation for measures 66-68. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The lower staff has a bass clef. Measure 66 starts with a 7-measure rest in the upper staff. Dynamics include *f*. There are triplets in both staves.

69

Musical notation for measures 69-74. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The lower staff has a bass clef. Measure 69 starts with a 5-measure rest in the upper staff. Dynamics include *ff* and *f singing*. There are triplets in both staves.

75

Musical notation for measures 75-80. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The lower staff has a bass clef. Measure 75 starts with a 2-measure rest in the upper staff. Dynamics include *f*. There are triplets in both staves.

81

Musical notation for measures 81-85. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The lower staff has a bass clef. Measure 81 starts with a 4-measure rest in the upper staff. Dynamics include *mf* and *f*. There are triplets in both staves.

86

Musical notation for measures 86-92. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The lower staff has a bass clef. Measure 86 starts with a 7-measure rest in the upper staff. Dynamics include *f*. There are triplets in both staves.

93

Musical notation for measures 93-98. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The lower staff has a bass clef. Measure 93 starts with a 7-measure rest in the upper staff. Dynamics include *mf* and *very clear and percussive*. There are triplets in both staves.

101 *p distant*

109 rit.....

stay mf marcato *mp suddenly flowing*

115 *p, playful* *mp* *p* *pp*

dry

120 *mp* *mf* *f* *accel.....*

125 *f* *rit.....* *f celebrate!*

129

136 *7* *5* *7*

143 *f appassionato* *lyrical*

149 *5* *3* *3* *7*

154 *p sub.* *touches of Ped through m 161*

160 *f* *ff joyous!*

165 *p sub.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

170 *ff* *p subito* *3* *7*

176 *f* *(p)*

p *ffz*
Sost. _____

184 $\text{♩} = 160$

f, explode! *con brio*
Ped. \square
(Sost.) _____

189 *8va*

f, push *8va* *ffz*

193

ffz
Sost. _____

199 *8va* l.h. -- r.h. *ff* *mf* *2*

202 *7* *ff* *mf* *f*

touches of Ped through m209

206 *2* *7* *2* *7* *ff, obsessive*

210 *7* *f* *p sub.* *dry*

215 *8va* *mp* *3*