

Stev

Traditional Norwegian Stev

INTRO

STEV

Detailed description: This system contains the first five measures of the piece. It is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure is marked 'INTRO' and contains a whole rest in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measures 2-4 continue the introductory pattern. Measure 5 is marked 'STEV' and begins the main melody with a half note in the treble and a whole rest in the bass.

6

Set C#

Set C-nat.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 6 through 10. Measure 6 is marked '6' and contains a treble clef, a key signature change to C major, and a bass clef. Measure 7 has a '3' above a triplet in the treble and is marked 'Set C#'. Measure 8 has a '3' above a triplet in the bass and is marked 'Set C-nat.'. Measures 9 and 10 continue the melodic and harmonic development.

11

3

Set C#

Set C-nat

Detailed description: This system contains measures 11 through 16. Measure 11 is marked '11' and contains a '3' above a triplet in the treble. Measure 12 has a '3' above a triplet in the bass. Measure 13 has a treble clef and is marked 'Set C#'. Measure 14 has a bass clef and is marked 'Set C-nat.'. Measures 15 and 16 continue the piece.

17

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 17 through 20. Measure 17 is marked '17'. Measure 18 has a '3' above a triplet in the bass. Measure 19 has a treble clef. Measure 20 has a bass clef and a '3' above a triplet.

21

INTERLUDE

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 24. Measure 21 is marked '21'. Measure 22 has a treble clef and is marked 'INTERLUDE'. Measure 23 has a bass clef and a dynamic marking of *p*. Measure 24 continues the interlude with a treble clef.

2

24

RH *pp* *p*

RH *pp*

LH

27

STEV

Set C#

Set C-nat

32

RH *pp* *p*

LH

Stev are short poems, usually four lines, set to a traditional stev melody. They are in the local dialect and the melody is a common one for stev poems. The tradition of singing stev is centuries old and is found in many places in Norway. It may be related to Icelandic 'rimur'.

The time signature is only a suggestion. The stev is sung in units of breath, rather than units of time. Rubato is the closest we get to the concept. Take the time you think each phrase ending needs and play without worrying too much about the beat. Imagine each phrase is part of a story, something to be savored and enjoyed before moving on.