Plus Fives by Christopher Norton

What does the title mean?

Plus fives refers to the time signature 5/4, which is counted 123 12 throughout. This piece is like a jazz waltz and has a triplet feel.

What key is this in?

G minor/aeolian. There are some elements of jazz in the harmony, for instance the D7#9 in bar 11.

Notation

Metronome marking 160 crotchets per minute

Triplet feel for dotted notes

Accent - play the note loudly

Diminuendo - gradually getting softer

Mezzo forte - mf - moderately loud

Acciaccatura/grace note - small note before the main note, a type of ornament

Sharp - raise the note a semitone

Flat - lower the note a semitone

Natural - cancel the sharp or flat

Slur - smoothly connect the notes

Staccato - short and detached

Piano - p - soft

Mezzo piano - mp - moderately soft

Ped - pedal - use the damper pedal

Forte - f - loud

Tie - hold the notes for their combined value

Crescendo - gradually getting louder

Poco rit. - poco ritenuto - a little held back/slower

Fermata - pause - hold the notes for longer than written

Fortissimo - ff - very loud