

Sonatina Op 27 No 18 by Kabalevsky

What does the title mean?

A sonatina is a little sonata. Sonata means 'to sound' - this is a piece for instrument with multiple movements.

What key is this in?

This is in A aeolian or A natural minor.

Key changes/modulations - bar 5 G minor

Bar 9 - D minor

Bar 13 - G minor with many chromatic notes

Bar 25 - back to A minor

Bar 33 - A major (actually A Lydian with D#)

Bar 36 - chromatic movement back to A minor

Notation:

Allegretto - a little fast and lively

Metronome marking - around 126 to 132 crotchets per minute

mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

f - forte - loud

Sharp - raise the note a semitone

Flat - lower the note a semitone

Natural - cancel the sharp or flat

Slur - play smoothly

4/4 - simple quadruple time signature - 4 crotchet beats per minute

Diminuendo - gradually getting softer

Crescendo - gradually getting louder

Staccato - short and detached

Tenuto - hold the note for full value - stress the note

p subito - suddenly piano or soft

Poco riten. - poco ritenuto - a little immediately held back

A tempo - return to original speed

Marcato - mark the notes by playing them louder

Arpeggiato - roll the chord

Pedalling - use the damper pedal

pp - pianissimo - very soft