Haydn — Sonata in C♯ minor, Hob. XVI:36

First Movement: Moderato

Title

- Sonata — means 'to sound' but refers to a multi-movement instrumental work.
- C♯ minor — tonic key.
- Hob. XVI:36 — Hoboken catalogue: XVI = keyboard sonatas; 36 = this sonata.
- Moderato — moderate speed.
- The title is not programmatic; it identifies genre, key and catalogue number.

Period and Style

- Classical period; published 1770-75?
- Balanced phrasing.
- Light elegant touch.
- Modulation to related keys.
- Standard dynamic and articulation contrasts.
- Use of the two-note slur and shaped phrases
- Formal structure (sonata form)
- Extensive development of short motives, scales and arpeggios
- Clear cadences.
- Use of sequences, ornamentation and homophonic textures.
- Written for the fortepiano
- Limited use of pedal

Joseph Haydn — Biography and Genres

- Joseph Haydn (1732–1809) was born in **Rohrau, Austria**, the son of a wheelwright. His musical ability was recognised when he was young, and at about eight he became a **choirboy at St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna**. After his voice broke, he supported himself as a freelance musician and teacher while studying composition. His career changed when he entered the service of the **Esterházy family in 1761**, eventually becoming Kapellmeister and spending nearly three decades composing and directing music at their estates. The relative isolation of the Esterházy court gave Haydn considerable opportunity to experiment and develop his own musical style. After Prince Nikolaus Esterházy died in 1790, Haydn travelled to **London**, where his concerts and new symphonies brought him considerable fame and financial success. He returned to Vienna, composed major late works including *The Creation* and *The Seasons*, and spent his final years in a country home that he built. He died in **Vienna in 1809**, aged 77.

Keys / Modulations

- bb. 1–11: C♯ minor.
- b. 12 onwards: E major (relative major).
- b. 34: G♯ minor at beginning of development.
- bb. 34–64: modulating development.
- b. 65–end: return to C♯ minor.

Structure — Sonata Form

Exposition: bb. 1–33

- bb. 1–2: first subject C# minor
- bb. 7-11: short bridge - changes key
- c. b. 12: second subject E major (relative major)
- bb. 17–21: further development of opening material.

- Bar 27 onwards Codetta (close of the exposition)

Development: bb. 34–64

- b. 34: development begins, uses second subject - E major (relative major)
- Bar 37: F# minor (subdominant minor)
- Bar 41: A major transition to the dominant of c# minor at bar 43
- Bar 44: G# minor (dominant minor), sequences shifting up steps
- Bar 49: returning to C# minor (dominant chord of G# major)

Recapitulation: b. 65–end

- b. 65: first subject in C# minor (tonic key)
- bb. 65–72: bridge is extended
- b. 78 second subject in C# minor
- c. b. 93: codetta in C# minor

Interesting feature - circle of fifths in the development; Scottish snap dotted rhythm; dramatic rests.

Composer Genres

Haydn wrote in most of the major genres of his time:

- Symphonies
- String quartets
- Keyboard sonatas
- Piano trios
- Other chamber music
- Concertos
- Divertimenti and serenades
- Masses
- Oratorios
- Operas
- Songs
- Sacred vocal music
- Secular vocal music

Notation

Marking	Meaning
Moderato	Moderate speed
f	Forte — loud
p	Piano — soft
ff	Fortissimo — very loud
cresc.	Gradually getting louder
dim.	Gradually getting softer
staccato	Short/detached
slur	Smoothly connected / phrased together
accent	Emphasise the note
fermata	Hold longer than written value
tr	Trill
♯	Raise by a semitone
♮	Cancel a sharp or flat
𝄪	Double sharp
tie	Join notes of the same pitch
repeat signs	Repeat the section
leger lines	Extend the stave
dot after note	Adds half the note's value
C - 4/4 time	Simple quadruple time
Slur	Play legato
Acciaccatura	Little note before main note (play ornaments on the beat)
Poco a poco	Little by little
Turn	Ornament - play the note above, the main note, the note below, the main note
Calando	Dying away (getting softer)
Wedges/staccato	Wedges often mean staccatissimo but in Haydn just basically staccato