

A Porcupine Dance by Kabalevsky (20th century)

Opus (work) 89 number 8

What does the title mean?

A porcupine is like an echidna - it's an animal with spines on the outside of its body that are spiky. This piece has short crisp notes which jump around, providing a musical description of the character title.

What key is this in?

C major but with clashing intervals (like minor 2nds at end)

Notation:

time signature 2/4 - simple duple, 2 crotchet beats/bar

Andante - walking pace

> - accent - stress the note

staccato - short and detached

mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

quaver rests - rest for half a beat

treble clef - high notes

p - piano - soft

crescendo - gradually getting louder

ledger lines - notes higher/lower than the stave