

Rhapsody by Christopher Norton

What does the title mean?

A rhapsody is a free-flowing style of music, usually romantic and expressive in character.

What key is this in?

This is in C major. There are a couple of moments of Eb major (bar 13 and bar 23) but these are not key changes.

Notation:

Metronome marking - 104 crotchets per minute

4/4 - time signature - 4 crotchet beats per bar (simple quadruple time)

Tenuto - hold the note for its full value - a type of stress

Accent - play the note loudly

Crescendo - gradually getting louder

Mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

Poco dim. - a little gradually getting softer

Ped. - use the damper pedal

Mp - mezzo piano - moderately soft

Slur - play legato - play smoothly

Tie - hold the note for the combined value

Flat - lower the note a semitone

Natural - cancel the flat or sharp

P - piano - soft

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

Fermata - pause - hold the note longer than written

Double bar line - the end

Ledger line - extend the stave for notes higher or lower than the stave