

"LEIB"

Meditation and Variations

for solo violin (abridged)

Notes : The Meditation and its subsequent variations are a musical portrait of the conflicting emotional states of the main character Leib from my unfinished opera of the same title. Throughout these variations the violin expresses that which Leib can neither adequately express nor understand. The violin tells of the conflict that tortures Leib's sanity: the rage for revenge on his unfaithful wife juxtaposed with the piety and profound religiosity of his Jewish spirit. The violin cries aloud for his wounded pride - having lost his wife to another man and weeps at this shame - having been outcast from his community. The violin counsels him in confronting his tender feelings for a prostitute with whom he consequently takes up and consoles his otherwise lonely existence. It is his soul and subconscious. It is the mirror through which we, the audience, gaze inwardly upon Leib.

- Theme.** Meditation: Lento e molto rubato.
- Variation 1.** Largamente.
- Variation 2.** Adagio un poco rubato
- Variation 3.** Presto feroce; presto arpeggiando; prestissimo
- Variation 4** Largamente appassionata

'Meditation' ♩=40 ↘

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Lento e molto rubato (quasi senza misura.)

solo violin

The theme should be played without any noticeable pulse - completely ad lib. The pauses between phrases are long. The effect is to communicate a pathos and speech-like quality completely devoid of any metric regularity.

5

♩=60

Var. 1 Largamente

10

13

♩=52

Var. 2 Adagio un poco rubato

17 *mute*
p

21 *pp* *cresc.* *tr* *accel.* *riten.* *p* *gliss.*

25 *dolcissimo* *f* *dolcissimo*

29 *p* *Nat. har. Sul A* *Nat. har. Sul D* *Sul E* *A* *Sul D* *Sul G* *mute off*

Var. 3 Presto feroce

34 *at the frog, off-the-string* *fff* *Sul D* *sub. molto allarg.*

35 *sub. molto allarg.*

36 *Sul A* *Sul D* *tr* *Ad lib. take time*

presto arpeggiando

37 *ff*

39

41

Fine
attacca

43

Prestissimo

44 *mp*

46

49 *molto cresc.* *ff*

Da Capo
alla fine
(senza replica)

Var. 4 Largamente appassionata

♩=60ca

52 *gliss.*
gliss.
ff

55

57 *p* *f* *p* *molto*

60 *accelerando e crescendo colla bravura bow ad lib.*
ff

62 *intenso (very gradual glissando)*

66 *rallentando*
f

69 *sul pont.* *ord.* *sul pont.* *ord.* *sul pont.* *ord.* *pizz.* *arco*
sffp *fff* *p* *fff* *p* *fff* *a piacere* *p*

"drammaticita" (no harmonic)