

Peering Over Pikes Peak

Pikes Peak is one of the most famous mountains in the Colorado Rockies. Standing over 14,000 feet, it provides a scenic wonderland for many visitors each year. After visiting Pikes Peak in 1893, Katherine Lee Bates was inspired to write the poem, "America the Beautiful." It was later set to music. Motives from this well-loved song are found in this movement.

Tempo rubato (♩ = 104)

Victor Labenske

The first system of the musical score is in G major and 4/4 time. It begins with a *Tempo rubato* marking and a quarter note equal to 104 beats. The music is written for piano with two staves. The right hand starts with a half note chord (G4, B4) and a half note chord (D5, F#5), followed by a melodic line with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 2, 2, 3. The left hand plays a bass line with fingerings 1, 2, 5, 1, 2, 5. Dynamics include *mp* with an accent, *p*, and *mp*. The system concludes with a 2/4 time signature change and a final chord with fingerings 5, 2, 1.

The second system starts at measure 5. The right hand features a melodic line with fingerings 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 1, 4. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 1, 5, 5, 2, 2. Dynamics include *mp* with a *poco rit.* marking and *mf*. The system concludes with a 4/4 time signature change and a final chord with fingerings 1, 5, 5, 2, 2.

The third system starts at measure 9. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 2, 3, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 4. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 1, 5, 5, 2, 4, 1, 5, 1, 3, 1, 3. Dynamics include *mp* and *cresc.*

The fourth system starts at measure 13. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 2, 1, 3, 1, 3, 3, 3, 4. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 5, 1, 5, 1, 3, 2, 1, 5, 5, 2, 2. Dynamics include *mf*, *mp*, and *mf*.

Distant Echoes of Carlsbad Caverns

Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico contains the deepest limestone cave in the United States. The magnificent formations found in the underground chambers were created from water droplets that seeped down into the limestone of the cave more than 500,000 years ago. More than a thousand years ago, Native Americans explored the caverns, leaving drawings on the walls near the natural cave entrance. These early Native Americans inspired this movement.

Victor Labensky

Freely, with rubato ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 52$)

5

9

13

mf *p* *pp*

1 5 1 2 5 3 1 2

5 5 1 3 5 1 2 1

1 5 1

8va 8va 8va 8va