



Themes of Traditional Polish Dances in Modern Improvised Music

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Introduction

- **Meaning of the Topic**
 - Second meaning
 - Thesis
 - Why dances?



Introduction cont.

■ My musical background

- Musical Family
- Classic & Jazz
- Polish Culture & Berklee Valencia



Berklee
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music

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Polish Dances

■ Regions

- Mazovia
- Kuyavia
- Lesser Poland

■ Groups

- Dances in triple meter
- Dances in duple meter



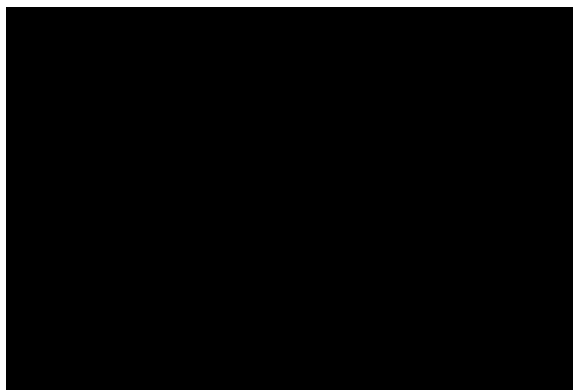
Dances in triple meter



■ Oberek

- Fast & vigorous
- AABB form
- Violin, bass & drum
- Improvisation
- Important role

Musical notation for Oberek in 3/8 time. The piece is marked with a tempo of 230. It consists of two sections, A and B, each with a trill (tr) at the end. Section A starts with a treble clef and a 3/8 time signature. Section B starts with a treble clef, a 3/8 time signature, and a measure rest of 21 measures before the first note.



Dances in triple meter, cont.



■ Mazur

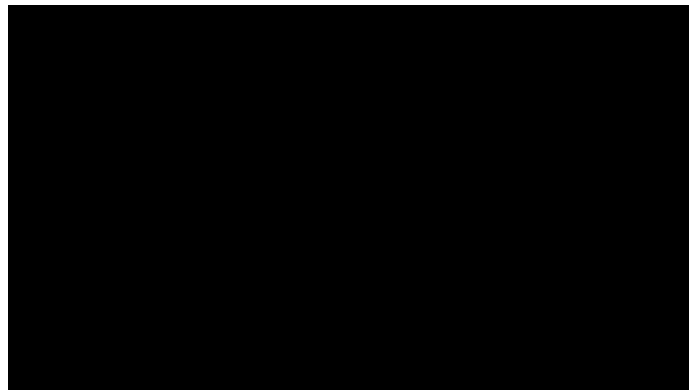
- Oberek from Mazovia
- Differences:
Tempo, Melody
- Recognition
- Polish Anthem

17 **A** ♩ = 190

B

25

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 3/8 time. The first staff is labeled 'A' and starts at measure 17. The second staff is labeled 'B' and starts at measure 18. The third staff starts at measure 25. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 190. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.



Dances in triple meter, cont.



■ Kujawiak

- From *Kuyavia*
- Similar form and rhythm
- Melancholic tone & slower tempo
- Polish core

A $\text{♩} = 90$

20

B

28

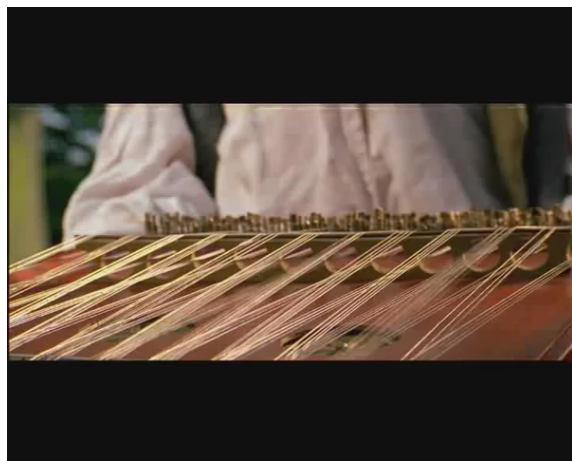


Dances in triple meter, cont.



■ Polonez

- Ceremonial tone
- Special Accents
- Recognition



A ♩ = 70

B

40

44

$\frac{3}{4}$

Dances in duple meter



■ Krakowiak

- From *Lesser Poland*
- Fast & dynamic
- AABBCCD... form
- Syncopation
- Polish spirit

Musical notation for the Krakowiak dance, showing four staves of music in 2/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 120. The first staff is labeled 'A' and the second staff is labeled 'B'. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns and syncopation.

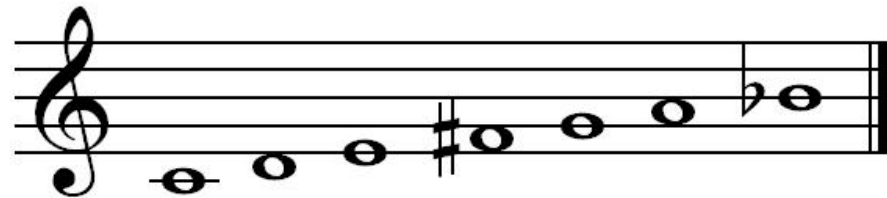


Dances in duple meter, cont.



■ Zbójnicki

- From *Podhale*
- Special Scale
- Energetic,
Man's dance
- Suite form
- String ensemble
- Very influential



XL Karnawał Góralski
Bukowina Tatrzańska 2012r.
Konkurs Tańca Góralskiego



Modern Improvised Music

- **What is the improvisation?**

- State of mind, which allows us to create
- Way to express feelings
- Live act, Composition

- **What is the role of improvisation?**

- Improvisation in Classical Music
- Improvisation in Jazz
- Modern Trends and Improvisation



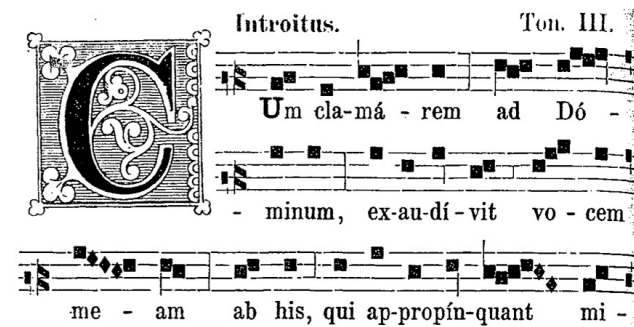
Classical Music and Improvisation

■ Perfection vs. Identity

- Rules affected by human aspect
- Entertaining or enlightening role?
- Composer: Servant or careerist?

■ Role of Improvisation

- Romanticism & folk music
- Composition = Improvisation?



Jazz and Improvisation

■ Jazz attributes

- Folk roots
- New meaning of improvisation

■ Direction of Jazz

- Individuality
- Coming back to folk
- Modern trends



Investigation

- **Berklee Valencia**
 - Observations & Conclusions
 - Questions & Answers
 - What to do next?
- **Next Steps**
 - Steps to be taken by a Creative Musician
 - My first Step



Steps to be taken by a Creative Musician



- **First Step:** *Exploration & Experience*

- To mix folkloric themes and forms with already existing musical language.

- **Second Step:** *Consciousness and Creation*

- To create own music with a knowledge of folkloric musical characteristics.

- **Third Step:** *Imagination and Invention*

- To find a new formula, in which folkloric characteristics would be a main fundament of the entire musical structure (new genre).

My First Step

■ Oberek for solo piano

- Extended AABB
- Different melodies
- Syncopation
- Improvisation & Style



A musical score for the piece 'My First Step' in 3/8 time, key of D major. The score is written on a single treble clef staff and consists of 48 measures. It features a variety of chords and melodic lines. The chords are: A, D, G, D, G, D/F#, F#b9/A#, G/B, E-, A, D, (D/F#), G, E-, C#b9/F, D/F#, G, D/A, A7, D, C#, A/C#, C#-13, C#-7, F#/A, C#/G#, C/G, C/G, G, D7/G, B7/F#, F7, F7, Bb/F, F7, Bb13/F, C7b9/E, C#/F, C#9/Eb, Ab/C, Eb7/Bb, Ab, Eb7 4 - - 3, Ab, C7, F-, C7, F-. The score includes various rhythmic patterns, including triplets and syncopation. A red square is present in the top right corner of the page.

My First Step, cont.

- **Oberek for quartet**

- Guitar, Piano, Bass & Drums
- Counterpoint
- Improvised theme
- Solos in the style



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A

Guitar

Double Bass

B

Gtr.

D.B.

BRIDGE

Gtr. 8 Open ————— :||: Guitar Solo ————— :||:

D.B. 8 D ————— :||: ————— :||:

BRIDGE

Gtr. 11 ————— :||: Piano Solo ————— :||:

D.B. 11 D ————— :||: ————— :||:

C

Gtr.

Gtr. 17

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of several systems of staves for Guitar and Double Bass. Section A shows the main theme. Section B features counterpoint between the guitar and bass. The BRIDGE section includes a guitar solo (measures 8-10) and a piano solo (measures 11-13). Section C returns to the main theme.

My First Step, cont.

■ Zbójnicki for duo

- Piano & Double bass
- Melody based on scale
- Suite form
- Solos in the style



INTRO (fast)
B- D E/F Eb

A *(slow)*
7 D E/F Eb/A^b B-

12 D/F E/G Eb/A^b B- *accel.*

B *(fast)*
D E/F Eb/A^b B-

24 D/F E/G Eb/A^b 1. B-

solo piano
29 Eb/A^b

solo bass
33 B-

37 *(slow)*
D (D/B^b) E/F (E/C) Eb/A^b (Eb/C[#]) B- (Bmaj)

Fine

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Thank You!