

Shostakovich's Thumb

compiled by cellofun.eu

excerpts from Shostakovich's music for cello that could, should, or must, be played in thumb position

Shostakovich Concerto N° 1 Op 107 Movt I. His Cello Sonata (easier) is found on pages 6 and 7)

The musical score is presented in two systems of staves. The first system contains 11 staves of music, primarily in 3/4 and 3/8 time signatures. It includes various dynamics such as *sf*, *decresc*, *p*, and *ff*. Performance instructions include "thumb still" and "thumb up". The second system contains 4 staves of music, including a section labeled "Movt II (not fast)" in 4/4 time. Dynamics here include *cresc* and *mf*. The score is filled with musical notation including notes, rests, and fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4). Some notes are marked with a circled 'p' for plectrum. There are also some circled 'x' marks, possibly indicating breath marks or specific articulation. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor).

The first part of the score consists of ten staves of music. It begins in 3/4 time with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-3, and dynamic markings include *p*, *mf*, and *ff*. Technical instructions such as "thumb still" and "II" are present. The piece concludes with a fermata on the final note.

Movt III (cadenza)

The second part of the score, labeled "Movt III (cadenza)", consists of three staves of music. It begins in 4/4 time with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The music is characterized by complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth-note runs and triplets. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4, and dynamic markings include *mf*, *p*, *dim*, and *pp*. The piece concludes with a fermata on the final note.

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The first staff of music is in 3/4 time and begins with a treble clef. It contains several measures of music, including a triplet of eighth notes, a half note, and a quarter note. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-3. Roman numerals II, I, and III are placed below the staff. The staff concludes with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

The second staff continues the piece, featuring a mix of eighth and quarter notes. It includes a triplet of eighth notes and a half note. Fingerings and Roman numerals (I, II, III, V) are clearly marked throughout the staff.

The third staff shows a sequence of eighth notes, some with 'x' markings above them. It features a half note and a quarter note. Roman numerals V and III are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

accelerando

The fourth staff begins with the instruction 'accelerando' and a piano dynamic 'p'. It contains a series of eighth notes, some with 'x' markings. Roman numerals I, II, III, IV, and V are used. The staff concludes with a double bar line and a fermata.

Allegro

The fifth staff is marked 'Allegro' and begins with a forte dynamic 'f'. It features a mix of eighth and quarter notes. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

The sixth staff continues with eighth and quarter notes. It includes a triplet of eighth notes and a half note. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

The seventh staff features a series of eighth notes, some with 'x' markings. It includes a half note and a quarter note. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

thumb still

The eighth staff is marked 'thumb still' and features a series of eighth notes. It includes a half note and a quarter note. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

The ninth staff features a series of eighth notes, some with 'x' markings. It includes a half note and a quarter note. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

The tenth staff continues with eighth and quarter notes. It includes a half note and a quarter note. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

The eleventh staff features a series of eighth notes, some with 'x' markings. It includes a half note and a quarter note. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

Movt IV: Allegro con moto

The twelfth staff is marked 'Movt IV: Allegro con moto' and begins with a forte dynamic 'f'. It features a mix of eighth and quarter notes. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

The thirteenth staff continues with eighth and quarter notes. It includes a half note and a quarter note. Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV are present. The staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It begins in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piece is characterized by its rhythmic complexity, featuring numerous triplets, sixteenth-note runs, and slurs. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-3, and breath marks (circles with a vertical line) are used throughout. Dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *ff* (fortissimo). The score includes several key changes: to 3/4 time at measure 15, to 2/4 time at measure 25, and to 3/4 time at measure 35. A section marked *feroce* (ferocious) begins at measure 45, where the tempo and intensity increase. The piece concludes with a final cadence in 2/4 time.

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The first two staves of the score. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. It features a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes, a fermata, and a slur. The second staff continues the melodic line, including a double bar line with a repeat sign and a second ending marked 'II 1'. The piece concludes with a final treble clef and a 3/4 time signature.

thumb still and only on A string

The 'thumb still' section, consisting of seven staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a 3/4 time signature, featuring a triplet of eighth notes and a slur. The second staff continues with a 3/4 time signature and a slur. The third staff changes to a 3/4 time signature and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The fourth staff changes to a 3/4 time signature and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The fifth staff changes to a 2/4 time signature and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The sixth staff changes to a 2/4 time signature and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The seventh staff changes to a 2/4 time signature and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The section concludes with a final treble clef and a 2/4 time signature.

Cello Sonata: Movt I

p 3 cresc thumb up 3 V 2 V 2 3 3 3 13
ff 3 > > thumb up 1 1 3 2 V *ff* x3 3
p 3 2 III II 3 1 II x2 x1 2 3 3 4 3 3
pp 3 II 1 4 pizz. 2 4 2 4 III
f 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
ff 4 3 3 3 3 3 3 II2 II1
 Movt II (fast) *f* 3 1 all with open G-string also
ff 1 1 1 1 2
 p gliss
 play 8 bars the same
p 3 *f* thumb on A-string only
 play 6 bars the same
 Movt III: slow
p II 2 cresc II1

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First system of musical notation. Bass clef, 2/4 time. Includes fingering (1, 2, 3, 1, 3, 2, 3, 3), dynamics (*f*, *ff*), and articulation (>). Fingerings: 1, 2, 3, 1, 3, 2, 3, 3. Dynamics: *f*, *ff*. Articulation: >

Second system of musical notation. Treble clef. Includes fingering (3, 1, 3, 2), dynamics (*pp*), and articulation (>). Fingering: 3, 1, 3, 2. Dynamics: *pp*. Articulation: >

Sonata: Movt IV (Allegro)

Third system of musical notation. Treble and Bass clefs, 6/8 time. Includes Roman numerals (III, II, II), dynamics (*pp*), and articulation (circled notes). Roman numerals: III, II, II. Dynamics: *pp*. Articulation: circled notes.

Fourth system of musical notation. Treble clef. Includes Roman numerals (II, V), dynamics (*cresc*, *p*), and articulation (>). Roman numerals: II, V. Dynamics: *cresc*, *p*. Articulation: >

Fifth system of musical notation. Bass clef. Includes Roman numerals (II), dynamics (*p*), and articulation (trills, circled notes). Roman numerals: II. Dynamics: *p*. Articulation: trills, circled notes.

Sixth system of musical notation. Treble clef. Includes Roman numerals (III, II), dynamics (*p*, *cresc*), and articulation (trills, circled notes). Roman numerals: III, II. Dynamics: *p*, *cresc*. Articulation: trills, circled notes.

Seventh system of musical notation. Bass clef. Includes Roman numerals (IV), dynamics (*sf*, *dim*, *p*), and articulation (trills, circled notes, pizz.). Roman numerals: IV. Dynamics: *sf*, *dim*, *p*. Articulation: trills, circled notes, pizz.

Eighth system of musical notation. Treble clef. Empty staff.

Ninth system of musical notation. Treble clef. Empty staff.