

ANALYSIS

Capriccio
from
Partita No 2 in C minor
BWV 826

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1726)

Subject 1 upper voice

Subject 2

S1 middle voice

Subject 1 subsidiary material

C minor

G minor

S1 sub

S2 cont

S1 cont

S1 sub cont

G minor

S1 bass

Episode 1
Sequence

bass motive is extension of S1 bar 3
ii - V⁷ - i in F minor

Circle of 5ths: G C F B^b

ii - V⁷ - i in E^b major

Sequence

Circle of 5ths: E^b continued

Ab D G C minor

ii - V⁷ - i in C minor

S1 bass

C minor

Episode 2
Sequence

20

S2 mid

S1 cont

Circle of 5ths: Cm F Bb

ii - V7 - i in Bb major

Sequence cont

25

S1 upper

S2 mid

S1 sub bass

Circle of 5ths: Eb continued

ii - V7 - i in G minor

A D G minor

Episode 3
Transposition of Episode 2
Left and Right hands reverse roles
Sequence

29

S1 cont

S2 cont

S2

S1 sub cont

Circle of 5ths: G C F

ii - V7 - i in F major

ii - V7 - I in Eb major

Sequence continued

34

S1 fragment mid

S1 upper

Circle of 5ths: Bb continued

Eb Cm Fm Bb Eb Ab

ii - V7 - i in C minor

D G

Circle of 5ths at increased rate of change

59

S1 inverted bass
C minor

Episode 6
Sequence

64

Circle of 5ths: G C F B \flat major B \flat E \flat major E \flat

S1 inv mid

Episode 7

69

Circle of 5ths: A continued D G G minor

74

S1 fragment inv mid
G minor

78

S1 fragment inv upper

Episode 8
Three-fold sequence

C minor

F minor

Episode 8 is a transposition of Episode 1 with upper and middle voices exchanged

Sequence continued

82

F minor

E♭ major

C minor

87

S1 fragment upper

S1 mid fragment

S1 fragment bass

C minor

92

S1 fragment mid cont

Coda

C minor