

ANALYSIS

Modern chord terminology is used for chord descriptions above the staff. Harmonic function and inversion are listed below the staff.

NIMROD

Variation No 9 from Enigma Variations

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First Stanza bars 1 - 8

Simple and elegant counter melody in the "tenor" voice (Ebmaj7/Bb)

Adagio

Chords: Eb Ab/C (Fm7/C) Eb/G Bbsus4 Bb7 Eb Cm (F7/C) Bb Bb7

Roman numerals: Eb major: I IV⁶ ii⁶_{4 3} I⁶ V_{4 3}⁷ I vi ii⁶_{4 3} V I⁶₃ V⁷

Simple and elegant counter melody in the "tenor" voice

Second Stanza bars 9 - 19 similar to bars 1 - 8 with extension

Chords: Eb (Am7-5/Eb) Dm (G7/D) F7/C (Cm7) F9 F7 Bb7 Eb Ab/C (Fm7/C)

Roman numerals: I vi⁶_{4 3} vii⁵₃ iii⁶_{4 3} ii⁶₃ ii⁶_{4 3} vi⁷ ii⁹_{7 4 3} V⁷ I IV⁶₃ ii⁶₃

Counter melody in "tenor" as before

Bar 14 marks the first alteration from the First Stanza compare bar 6

Chords: Eb/G Bbsus4 Bb7 Eb Cm (F7/C) Bb (Ebmaj7/Bb) Bb7 Eb (Abmaj7/Eb) Ddim (Gm7/D) Ab/C

Roman numerals: I⁶ V_{4 3}^{5 7} I vi ii⁶_{4 3} V I⁶₃ V⁷ I IV⁶₃ vii iii⁶_{4 3} IV⁶

15

mf *dim.*

B \flat 7 Fm/Ab (Dm7-5/Ab) (Cm7-5/G \flat) Eb/G B \flat 7/F Ab/E \flat B \flat 7/D Cm/E \flat Gm7/D Abmaj7/C B \flat 7/D Fm/C Gm/B \flat B \flat 9

V⁷ ii⁶ vii⁶₄ I⁶ vi⁶₄ V⁶₄ IV⁶₄ V⁶₅ vi⁶ iii⁶₄ IV⁶₅ V⁶ ii⁶₄ V ₆ ₇ ₅

20

pp *p cresc.*

Interlude bars 20 - 27

E \flat /B \flat Dm7-5 B \flat 7/Ab E \flat /B \flat Dm7-5 B \flat 7/D E \flat /B \flat Ab

I⁶₄ V⁹ I⁶₄ V⁹ I⁶₄

25

f

Third Stanza bars 28 - 39
Similar to second stanza with altered ending

Fm7 Fm7/E \flat B \flat 7/D B \flat 7 Fm/Ab B \flat 7/D B \flat 7 E \flat Ab/C (Fm7/C) E \flat /G B \flat sus4 B \flat 7

ii⁷ ii ₄ ⁶₂ V⁶₅ ⁷₃ ⁷ ii⁶ V⁷⁻⁶ ⁷ I IV⁶ ii⁶₄ ₃ I⁶ V₄ ₃ ⁷

30

Counter melody as before

E \flat Cm (F7/C) B \flat (E \flat maj7/B \flat) B \flat 7 E \flat (Abmaj7/E \flat) Dm7-5 (Gm7/D) Ab/C B \flat 7 Fm/Ab (Dm7-5/Ab)

I vi ii⁶₄ ₂ V I⁶₄ V⁷ I IV⁶₄ ₃ vii iii⁶₄ ₃ IV⁶ V⁷ ii⁶ vii⁶₄ ₃

Alteration from second stanza
starts at bar 36, beat 3
compare bar 17, beat 3

35

largamente

ff

$E\flat/G$ ($Cm7-5/G\flat$) $B\flat7/F$ $A\flat/E\flat$ $B\flat7/D$ $B\flat7/F$ $A\flat/E\flat$ $B\flat7/D$ $B\flat7/F$ $A\flat m/E\flat_3$ $B\flat/D$ $Cm7$

I^6 vi^6_4 V^6_4 IV^6_4 V^6_5 V^6_4 IV^6_4 V^6_5 6_4 6_4 IV^{b6}_4 V^6 vi^7

Coda bars 40 - 43

39

rit.

dim.

pp

$B\flat$ $B\flat7sus4$ $B\flat7$ $E\flat$ $A\flat/C$ ($Fm7/C$) $E\flat/G$ $B\flat7sus4$ $B\flat7$ $E\flat$

V 9_7 7_3 I IV^6 ii^6_4 I^6 V_4 7_3 I