

Beethoven Cut Up



Repertoire:

I. Piano Sonata No 21 Op 53 – Waldstein: https://youtu.be/zwdiH9MQZHs

Resources:

1. Piano Sonata No 21 Op 53 – Waldstein: Midi File (provided)

Note: For activity I pairs of students require access to a sequencing programme.

Teacher preparation in advance of the lesson:

- 1. Upload and open the Midi File provided (see resources above).
- 2. Ensure that the track instrumentations are set to 'Grand Piano'.

Skills needed by students to complete the task:

1. Grab, move and drop cut up sequences

Activity 1:

Explain to students that they have been provided with a series of 7 tracks, each a section of music from the opening exposition of the first movement of Beethoven's Piano Sonata No 21, 'The Waldstein'. Their task is to:

- a. Listen to each section in turn by muting and unmuting each track
- b. Grab, move and drop each section on to track number 1, placing them in order to create a continuous sequence
- c. **Note**: Track I is the first section. Track 7 is the final section. You may give these as a starting point if you wish.

Activity 2:

- 1. Listen to the Youtube recording of the piece.
- 2. Discuss the differences between the midi sequence and live recording of the piece
- 3. Which is more effective? Why?
- 4. Point out that the Waldstein is a key early work of Beethoven's 'Heroic' decade (1803 1812):
 - a. Discuss: How does the music achieve a 'heroic' effect?