

Building a Section of Music

Angela's original is divided in two phrases, the first goes from D to A the second back to D. They are 6 mes long, with mes 9-12 a restatement of the motion expressed in measures 7-8 (return to D).

Viola

Vla.

To show an example of how to build a longer section of music, but not invade Angela's process, I use the same rhythms of her piece, but a different set of pitches. I start from a chord I like (mes 13 below), that generates the scale shown at mes 14, which I extend in mes 15 to obtain the scale I will need for the second phrase of the piece (mes 9-12 in the orig).

Vla.

This is the new version of the original, I use only the pitches of the chord at 13 in the first phrase

Vla.

How to continue? I want to write a ABA form. The two phrases I just wrote (and Angela's) are (1) short and (2) start and end on the same pitch. Not enough for an A section.

Vla.

To lengthen the section I decide to repeat and make it end on a higher pitch (G).

I have options to end up there: I can raise the first phrase, or the second, or both.

First phrase: instead of stopping on B-flat I use the same melodic motion to reach a third up to D (compare mes 20-21 with 32-33)

Vla.

Now to the second phrase. I simply transpose up a third, because this is as far as I got in the first phrase (at 34 above), I modify the longer descent to end on G (compare 24-27 with 38-41) and finally check to only include the pitches present in my scale. The result:

Vla.

2

Done: got my A section

Andantino

Vla. ⁴³ ⁴⁵

p *mf* *p*

I removed the C and G whole notes to speed up the motion

Vla. ⁵⁰ ⁵⁵

mf *p*

but linger on the D using the same rhythm of the beginning

Vla. ⁵⁷ ⁶⁰

mf *f*

changed a bit

added a second cadence

Vla. ⁶⁴ ⁶⁵

p *pp*