

Score

DENNIS KAM
Twinkle Variations
for piano (4-hands)
Student /Teacher
(2003/2009)

Twinkle Variations is a set of variations on the universally recognized tune, *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*, intended to be a survey of 20th century composition for the young pianist/musician. While all variations are connected and unified by common and repeated elements, the theme and each variation highlight particular compositional materials and procedures.

Theme	Mixolydian mode, modal harmony, parallelism (5ths)
Variation I	Chromatic sets
Variation II	Polychords, stepwise harmonic progression, pedal point
Variation III	Changing meters, shifting accents, quintal harmony
Variation IV	Quartal/quintal harmony
Variation V	Bitonality, pandiatonicism
Variation VI	Pointillism, octave displacement, embellishing 7ths/9ths
Variation VII	Tritone interval, melodic embellishment, changing meters
Variation VIII	Chords built with seconds and fifths, chord clusters
Variation IX	Lydian and mixolydian modes combined, canon
Variation X	Chromaticism
Variation XI	Whole-tone scale, augmented chords, chord clusters
Variation XII	Polychords, parallelism/contrary motion, changing meters

Dennis Kam, born in Honolulu, Hawaii, has been Chair of the Music Theory and Composition Department of the Frost School of Music, University of Miami since 1976. He was educated at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii, Toho Gakuen in Japan, and the University of Illinois. A teacher and mentor to composers, he has received many commissions, grants, and awards, including important ones from BMI and the Ford Foundation as Professional (Composer) -in-Residence for Honolulu and the State of Hawaii under the auspices of the Ford Foundation/ MENC Contemporary Music Project during 1970-1972. He currently serves as Composer-in-Residence for the South Florida Youth Symphony. As a conductor, he directs the *Other Music Ensemble* (group for the performance of new music) at the University of Miami. During 1982-1987, he was music director/conductor of the Greater Miami Youth Symphony. Active nationally, he has been President of Southern Chapter and National Board Member for Composition in the College Music Society, and has also served as a member of both Executive and National Councils for the Society of Composers, Inc. Kam's works since the 80's have represented a number and variety of interests: new tonal or post-atonal possibilities; contextual novelty; varieties of focus and perceptibility; time and continuity; meaning, implication, and representation in music.

Theme

Dennis Kam

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is labeled "Primo" and the bottom staff is labeled "Secondo". Both staves are in 2/4 time. The tempo is indicated as $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 132$. The Primo part starts with a dynamic of ***ff***. The Secondo part also starts with a dynamic of ***ff***. The music features eighth-note patterns and includes a key signature change to one flat.

7

This section shows the continuation of the musical theme. The Primo part (top staff) and Secondo part (bottom staff) are shown. Measure 7 begins with eighth-note patterns. The Primo part has dynamics ***mf*** and ***f***. The Secondo part has dynamics ***mf*** and ***f***. Measures 8 and 9 continue the pattern, ending with a dynamic of ***f***.

13

p

rit.

pp

f

a tempo

13

p

rit.

pp

f

a tempo

19

mf

p

molto rit.

19

mf

p

molto rit.

Variation I

Fast

Primo {

Secondo {

Fast

8va

7

{

7

{

13

rit. ----- a tempo
loco

p

13 rit. -----, a tempo

f = **p**

19

19

19

Variation II

Slow and expressive

Primo

Slow and expressive

Secondo

7

13

13

13

19

19

19

loco

Variation III

Fast and energetic

Primo {

Secondo {

Fast and energetic

9

ff

9

ff

svb

loco

15

15

22

22

Variation IV

Calm and contemplative $\text{♩} = 92 - 96$

Primo {

Calm and contemplative $\text{♩} = 92 - 96$

Secondo {

7

Musical score for measures 13 and 14. The score consists of two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has dynamic markings *mp*, *f*, *p*, and *f*. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has dynamic markings *mp*, *b2*, *p*, and *p*. Measures 13 and 14 feature eighth-note patterns with various accidentals.

Musical score for measures 19 and 20. The score consists of two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has dynamic markings *pp*, *f*, and *#p*. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has dynamic markings *rit.*, *pp*, and *#p*. Measures 19 and 20 show eighth-note patterns with key changes indicated by sharps and flats.

Variation V

Light and Playful $\text{♩} = 88 - 92$ 8^{va}

Primo {

Secondo {

Light and Playful $\text{♩} = 88 - 92$

6

6

loco

11

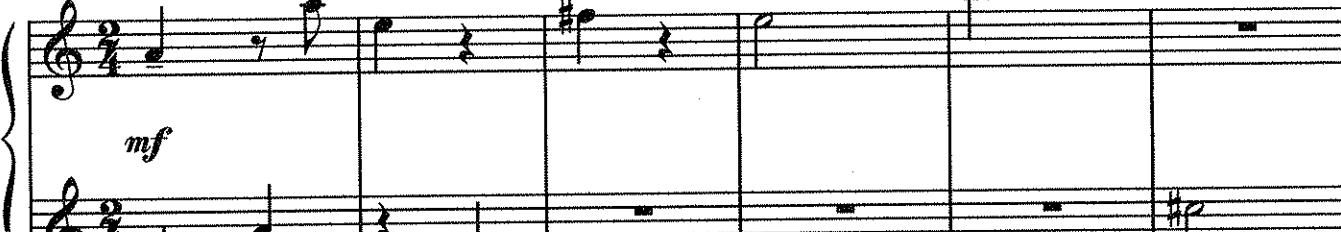
Musical score for two staves. The top staff consists of two treble clef staves. The bottom staff consists of one bass clef staff. Measure 11 starts with eighth-note pairs in the top staves, followed by eighth-note pairs with a sharp in the bottom staff. Measure 12 continues with eighth-note pairs in the top staves, followed by eighth-note pairs with a sharp in the bottom staff.

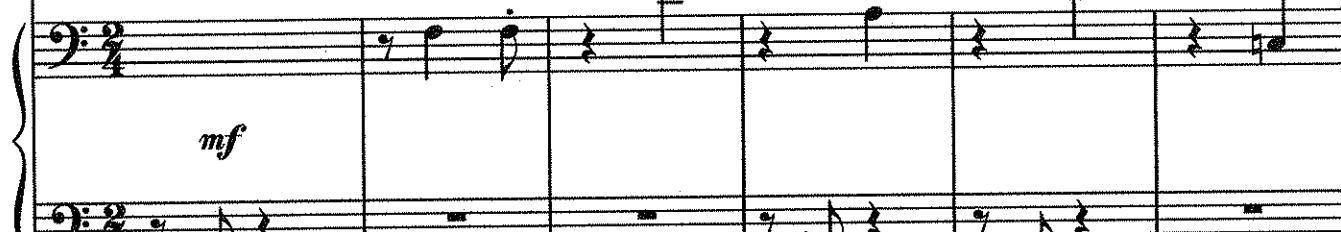
16

Musical score for two staves. The top staff consists of two treble clef staves. The bottom staff consists of one bass clef staff. Measure 16 starts with eighth-note pairs in the top staves, followed by eighth-note pairs with a sharp in the bottom staff. Measure 17 continues with eighth-note pairs in the top staves, followed by eighth-note pairs with a sharp in the bottom staff.

Variation VI

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 132$

Primo {  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 132$

Secondo { 

7 

rit. ----- a tempo
loco

13

rit. ----- a tempo

13

19

19

Variation VII

Musical score page 5, featuring three staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef, 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. The middle staff is also in treble clef, 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. The bottom staff is in bass clef, 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. The music consists of measures separated by vertical bar lines, with some measures grouped by curved brackets. Measure 1: Treble staff has a rest, Middle staff has a rest. Measure 2: Treble staff has a rest, Middle staff has a rest. Measure 3: Treble staff has a sixteenth-note grace note followed by eighth notes, Middle staff has a sixteenth-note grace note followed by eighth notes. Measure 4: Treble staff has a sixteenth-note grace note followed by eighth notes, Middle staff has a sixteenth-note grace note followed by eighth notes. Measure 5: Bass staff has a quarter note, Middle staff has a quarter note. Measure 6: Bass staff has a quarter note, Middle staff has a quarter note. Measure 7: Bass staff has a quarter note, Middle staff has a quarter note. Measure 8: Bass staff has a quarter note, Middle staff has a quarter note.

9

9

rit.

loco

13 accel. ----- a tempo

13 accel. ----- a tempo

mf

13 accel. ----- a tempo

mf

17

17

22

rit. ----- *a tempo*

22

rit. ----- *a tempo*

Variation VIII

Primo { Quiet; Peaceful (Rubato) $\text{♩} = 72 - 80$

Secondo { Quiet; Peaceful (Rubato) $\text{♩} = 72 - 80$

7

7

loco

8^{vb}

13

13

loco

20.

19

19

8vb

25

25

25

loco

30

30

35

35

Variation IX

Exact and detached $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 108$

Primo {

Secondo {

8^{th} -----

5

5

9

Musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in common time. Measure 9 consists of four measures of music. Measure 9a begins with a repeat sign and continues the musical line from measure 9. The bass staff has a 'loco' instruction below it.

13

Musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in common time. Measure 13 consists of four measures of music. Measure 13a begins with a repeat sign and continues the musical line from measure 13.

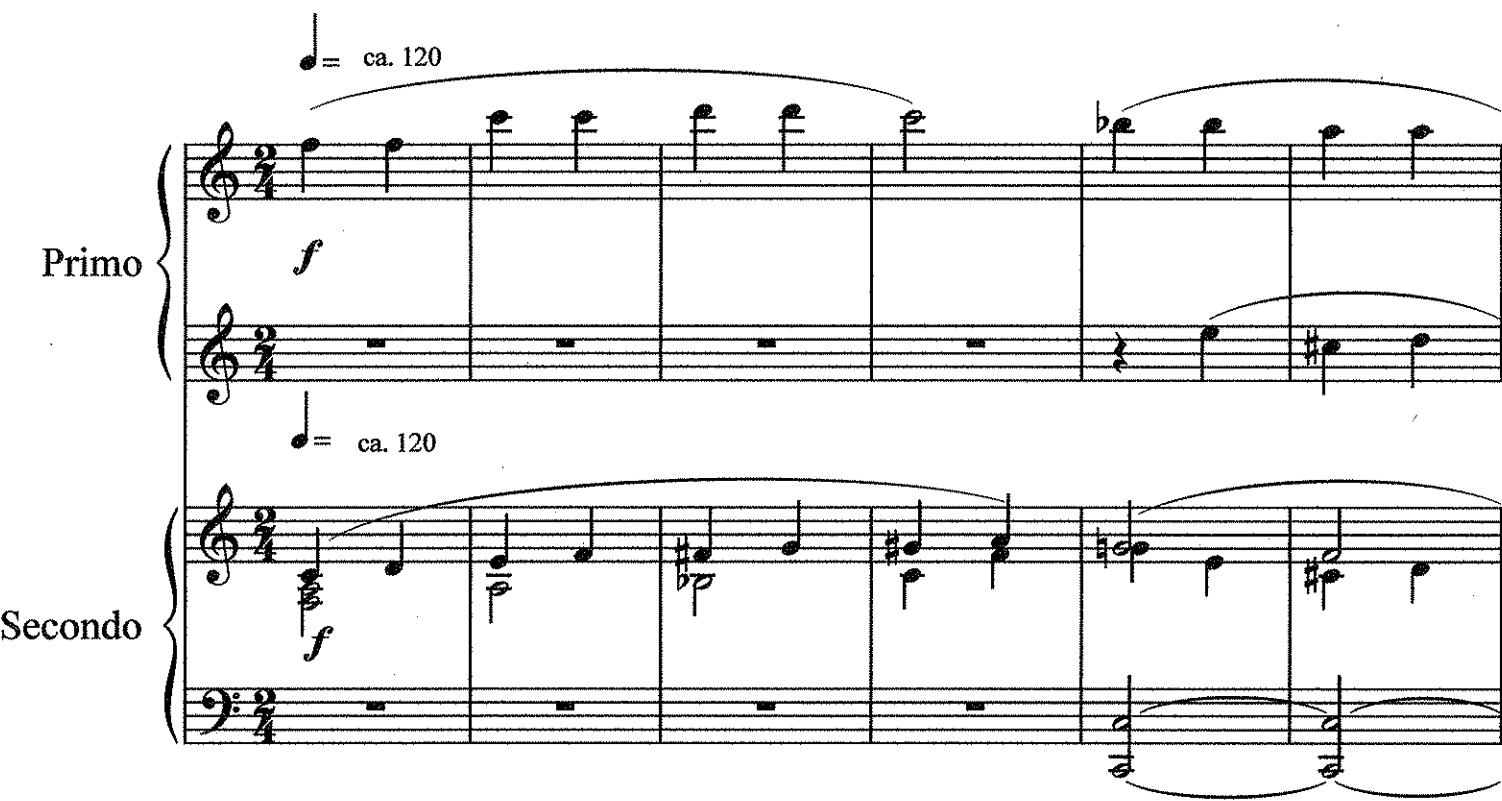
17

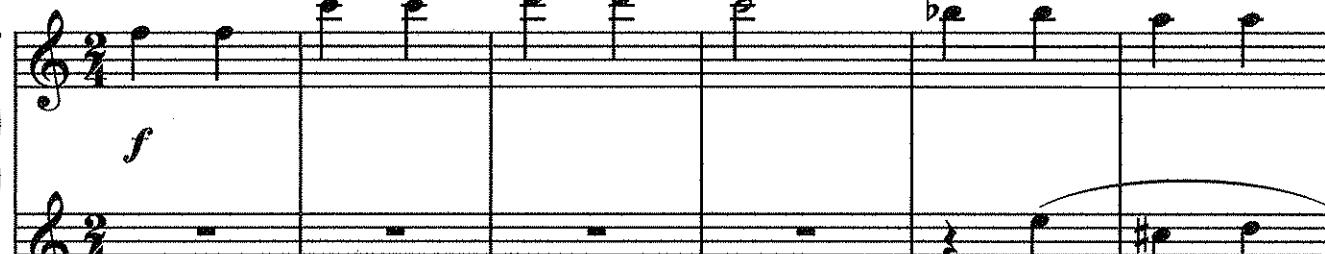
This block contains two staves of musical notation. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp. It consists of eight measures of sixteenth-note patterns. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp. It also consists of eight measures of sixteenth-note patterns.

21

This block contains two staves of musical notation. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp. It consists of eight measures of sixteenth-note patterns, with dynamic markings 'fff' and crescendo arrows. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp. It also consists of eight measures of sixteenth-note patterns, with dynamic markings 'fff' and crescendo arrows.

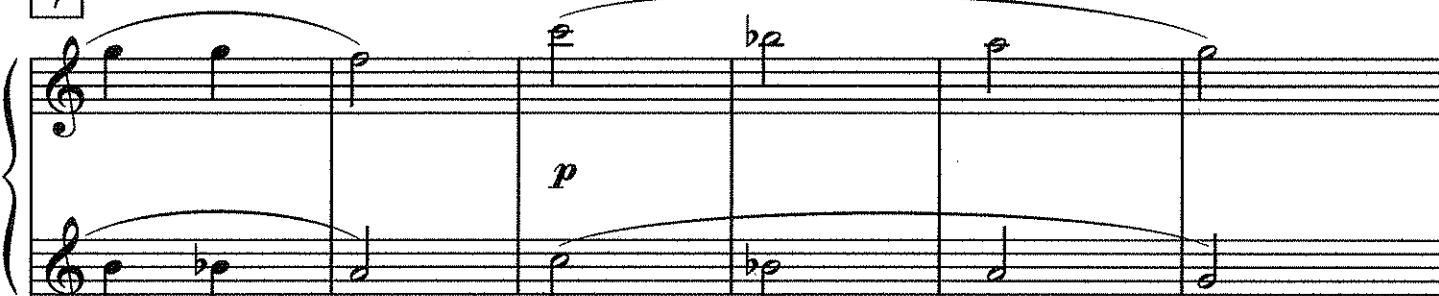
Variation X

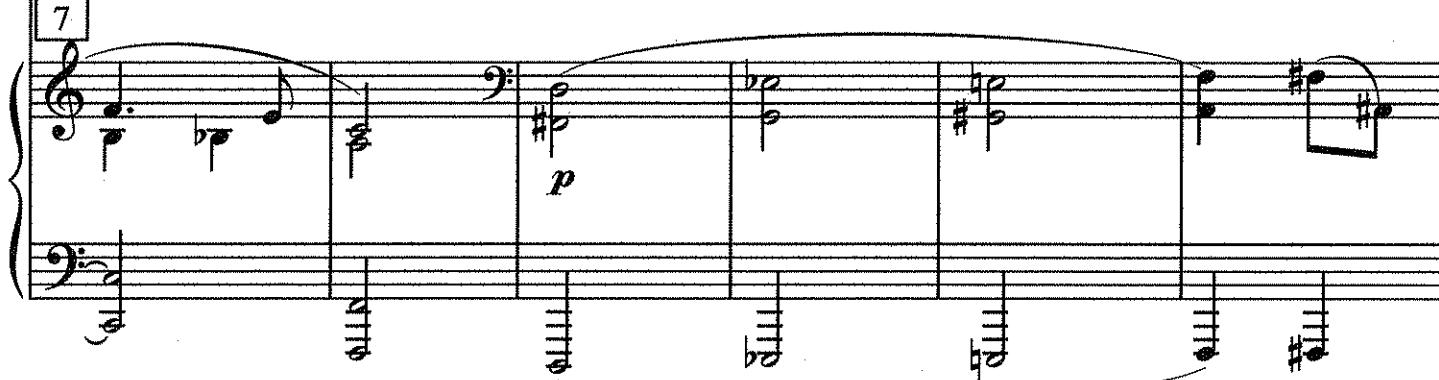


Primo {  

Secondo {  

Tempo: ca. 120

7 

7 

13

rit.

f

13

rit.

f

19

molto rit.

mf

19

molto rit.

mf

Variation XI

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$

Primo {

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$

Secondo {

6

6

12

rit. ----- a tempo

12

rit. ----- a tempo

19

rit. -----

19

rit. -----

Variation XII

Primo

$\text{♩} = 132 - 138$

Secondo

$\text{♩} = 132 - 138$

6

6

11

11

16

16

21

21

27

27