



Inspiring Artistry Repertoire Project

A Piano Magazine subscriber-exclusive digital resource

Charlotte Tang presents: Sonata in D Minor, K. 213 by Domenico Scarlatti

Preparation and Presentation

Context: pieces that are helpful to have experienced or played before approaching this one

- Sonata in D Minor, K. 1 by D. Scarlatti
- Sonata in D Minor, K. 32 by D. Scarlatti

Get Ready: creative activities to explore before the first encounter with the score to prepare a student for deeper engagement and more immediate success

- Identify the special moments in this short piece
- Identify the number of phrases in the work and locate them on the score
- Consider what colors, sounds, emotions, images, stories, or special moments this piece evokes

Initial Focus: features to pay attention to first; priority steps in reading and absorbing the music

- Start with the arpeggios and consider fingering together with the student
- Identify the sixths and find a comfortable gesture and approach to the keyboard
- Identify the articulation needed/used to convey the moods of this work

Coordination Essentials: physical skills and drills for common technical challenges in the piece

- Practice thirds and sixths in one hand
- Practice diminished and dominant seventh arpeggios

Expressivity: ideas to connect with the expressive and musical nature of the piece

- Identify the “twists and turns” and surprising moments in the piece and locate them on the score
- Analyze the qualities (major, minor, dominant seventh, diminished seventh) of the arpeggios Scarlatti employs
- Locate the most significant moment (or the climax) of the piece; what harmonies do you see there?

Look Forward: approaches to set up for success with refinements that will need attention a few weeks down the road

- After identifying the special moments/climax, begin connecting phrases of the piece until the student can play beginning to end

- How do the phrases relate to each other? Can you tell where they are building or receding?
- Draw an emotional roadmap with the emotions/colors to match the music
- Consider how to bring out these emotions/colors through the use of dynamics, articulation, and touch