

Beethoven Cut Up

Repertoire:

1. 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 1 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 1 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?