

More About SONATINA FOR CELLO AND PIANO

When I wrote my cycle of sonatinas for wind instruments and piano, I wasn't thinking about including strings, as I am not as familiar with the ins and outs of string playing and what is easy or hard for them. But when I had to produce an extended solo for violin and piano on short notice, I recycled my **Sonatina for Clarinet and Piano**, transposed up a step, so as to not produce an inferior product through haste.

Lately I've been thinking that more of those wind sonatinas can work perfectly well for instruments other than what they were originally conceived for, and they could get more mileage if I recycled some of them for strings.

Since many great composers such as Bach and Vivaldi were prolific recyclers of their own instrumental concerti, and even Mozart did it at least once, it would appear that the practice has some sound precedents. So I decided if it was good enough for those masters, it certainly is good enough for me.

So here is the second in the new series, originally written for trombone, but working very well for cello, even keeping the original key.

As the title indicates, **Sonatina for Cello and Piano** closely follows traditional sonata form on a somewhat smaller scale, cast in 3 movements with a home key of D minor:

The *Allegro moderato* first movement is a sonata-allegro in D minor.

The *Andante con moto* second movement is a passacaglia in F, the relative major of the home key.

The finale, *Allegro*, is an abridged sonata-rondo in the home key, D minor.

Sonatina for Cello and Piano was performed in New York's famous Carnegie Hall in November 2023. It has also been recorded for commercial release and is available on the albums **A Grand Journey Vol. II** and **Trios & Sonatinas**. See the Discography page on my website for more information.