

to Gerald Bennett,  
to answer his question: "Where the notes come from?"

# Ada + Babbage – Capricci

for cello and piano

(accidentals only affect the notes they immediately precede)

José López-Montes

(1977)

piano

sost. ped. . . . .

① press down the key silently

## Capriccio I

0 *ad libitum ma lentissimo*

pn

mf

8<sup>vb</sup>

② play a normal note and then put a finger on the string to obtain gradually a random natural harmonic, keeping the keys pressed on the keyboard

Ped.

pn

f

pizz.

ord. ppp

fff

ord. ppp

pizz. fff

⑧

Ped.

Ped.

③ random natural harmonic (put the fingertip or a nail somewhere on the string, and press the note on the keyboard)

④ pizz. the string with the finger

⑤ push a string to collide with a contiguous vibrating string, sounding as a percussive thrill

pn

f marcatiss.

gliss corde

⑧

sost. ped.

⑥ silently press the note on the keyboard and quickly gliss with the nail longitudinally on the string

pn

pp

poco cresc.

mp

sf

⑧

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

pn *p* *dolciss.*

Ped.

pn *poco agitato* *f* *poco rall.* *mp* *p*

sub. senza Ped. Ped. Ped.

pn *affrettando* *mf cresc.* *ppp* *pp* *sff*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

pn *ppp* *8va* *sf* *ff* *mp*

Ped.

pn *molto irregolare* *ppp* *8va* *sost. ped.* *Ped.*

(8) sost. ped. Ped.

(8)

pn

*f*

8<sup>vb</sup>

Capriccio II

*feroce e presto possibile*

vc

*ff détaché* *p*

1 **4/8** *feroce e presto possibile*

pn

*f*

*marcato sub. senza Ped.*

*p*

8<sup>vb</sup>

vc

*sff* *pp*

pn

*pp*

*Ped.*

8<sup>va</sup>

vc

(8)

5

pn

*sempre f*

Capriccio III

senza misura ma presto

sempre energico e con dinamica molto irregolare ad libitum

vc

7

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>vb</sup>

Red.

vc

9

8<sup>va</sup>

15<sup>ma</sup>

8<sup>vb</sup>

Red.

vc

15<sup>ma</sup>

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>vb</sup>

Red.

vc

12

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>vb</sup>

Red.

vc

pn

13

15<sup>ma</sup>

4 8

8<sup>va</sup>

Red.

Detailed description: This block shows the first system of a musical score. The upper staff is for Violoncello (vc) and the lower two staves are for Piano (pn). Measure 13 is marked with a '13' and a '4 8' time signature. The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with many beamed notes. A dashed line labeled '15<sup>ma</sup>' spans across measures 13, 14, and 15. Another dashed line labeled '8<sup>va</sup>' is positioned below the piano part. The system concludes with a double bar line and a '4 8' time signature. The word 'Red.' is written below the piano part.

Capriccio IV

vc

pn

14

4 8

5 8

3 8

5 8

5 8

12 = 112 moderato e molto delicato

pizz.

ben sonoro ma dolce vibrato espress. vibrato espress.

p dolcissimo

Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. sempre simile

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score, starting at measure 14. The upper staff (vc) has a tempo marking of '12 = 112 moderato e molto delicato' and includes performance instructions like 'pizz.', 'ben sonoro ma dolce', and 'vibrato espress.'. The piano part (pn) is marked 'p dolcissimo' and features several measures with '4 8', '5 8', '3 8', and '5 8' time signatures. The system ends with a double bar line and the instruction 'Red. sempre simile'.

vc

pn

18

5 8

7 8

5 8

8<sup>va</sup>

senza arpegg.

sempre simile

Detailed description: This block shows the third system of the musical score, starting at measure 18. The upper staff (vc) includes the instruction 'senza arpegg.' and 'sempre simile'. The piano part (pn) features measures with '5 8', '7 8', and '5 8' time signatures. A dashed line labeled '8<sup>va</sup>' spans across the piano part. The system concludes with a double bar line.

vc *ppp* *pp*

pn *ppp* *pp*

20 5/8 3/8 2/8 4/8

vc *poco a poco cresc.*

pn *poco a poco cresc.* *f*

24 5/8 7/8 4/8

senza Ped. Ped. Ped.

vc *p* *sempre f* *senza arpeg.* *senza arpeg.*

pn *p* *sempre f*

27 4/8 1/8 2/8 1/8 3/8 4/4

Capriccio V

vc *f* arco *tumultuoso* *f*

pn *f* *tumultuoso*

33 4/4 3/4 4/4

vc: *mf* 5

pn: 35  $\frac{4}{4}$  *p* 5 *mf* 5 *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

vc: *ff* 5 *pp* 5 *ff* 5

pn: 37 *pp* 5 *ff* 5  $\frac{3}{4}$  *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

vc: 5

pn: 39 *sf* 5 *p* 5 *f* 5  $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$  5

vc: *mf* 5 *fff* 5

pn: 41  $\frac{3}{4}$  *fff* 5  $\frac{4}{4}$  5

① play the square notes very softly, resembling partials of the normal note

Capriccio VI

♩ = ca. 72  
come fanfarria

vc

sf sf

overtone gliss.

Detailed description: This system shows the cello part for measures 41 and 42. The music is in a 2/4 time signature with a tempo of approximately 72 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The cello part features a series of eighth notes with a dynamic marking of *sf* (sforzando). A slur covers the notes, and a triangle with the text "overtone gliss." is placed above the slur. The notes are: 41: G2, A2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3; 42: G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4.

pn

43 4/4

♩ = ca. 72  
come fanfarria

sempre f

8<sup>vb</sup> Ped.

Detailed description: This system shows the piano part for measures 43 and 44. The time signature changes to 4/4. The piano part features a series of eighth notes with a dynamic marking of *sempre f* (sempre fortissimo). A slur covers the notes, and a triangle with a vertical line through it is placed above the slur. The notes are: 43: G2, A2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3; 44: G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4. Pedal markings "8<sup>vb</sup> Ped." are present below the staff.

vc

45

sf

overtone gliss.

pn

45

8<sup>vb</sup> Ped.

Detailed description: This system shows the cello and piano parts for measures 45 and 46. The cello part continues with eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *sf*. The piano part continues with eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *sempre f*. Both parts feature slurs and triangles with the text "overtone gliss.". Pedal markings "8<sup>vb</sup> Ped." are present below the piano staff.

vc

47

sf

overtone gliss.

pn

47

8<sup>vb</sup> Ped.

Detailed description: This system shows the cello and piano parts for measures 47 and 48. The cello part continues with eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *sf*. The piano part continues with eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *sempre f*. Both parts feature slurs and triangles with the text "overtone gliss.". Pedal markings "8<sup>vb</sup> Ped." are present below the piano staff.

vc

49

sf

overtone gliss.

pn

49

8<sup>vb</sup> Ped.

Detailed description: This system shows the cello and piano parts for measures 49 and 50. The cello part continues with eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *sf*. The piano part continues with eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *sempre f*. Both parts feature slurs and triangles with the text "overtone gliss.". Pedal markings "8<sup>vb</sup> Ped." are present below the piano staff.



vc *ff* *over-tone gliss.* *ff* *over-tone gliss.*

51 *ff*

pn *8<sup>vb</sup>* *Ped.* *8<sup>vb</sup>* *Ped.*

vc *ff* *over-tone gliss.* *ff* *over-tone gliss.*

53 *ff*

pn *8<sup>vb</sup>* *Ped.* *8<sup>vb</sup>* *Ped.* *l. vibr.*

Capriccio VII

senza misura ma molto tranquillo

vc *p* *sempre quasi senza vibr.* *pp*

55 *p* *pp*

pn *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

overpressure ord.

overpressure

vc *poco più f* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

pn *poco più f* *f* *ff* *ff* *ff* *pizz.* *fff*

*8<sup>vb</sup>* *Ped.* *Ped.*

Capriccio VIII

senza misura e più tranquillo  
ord.

vc *pp* spettrale e sempre senza vibrato

56 senza misura e più tranquillo

pn *pp* spettrale *p*

Ped. | Ped. | sost. ped. | Ped. | Ped.

vc *mp* *f*

pn *mf* *f*

Ped. | Ped. | Ped. | Ped. | Ped. | Ped. | Ped. | Ped.

vc *ppp*

pn *ppp* *mp* *l. vibr.*

Capriccio IX

$\text{♩} = 78$   
eolico

con sordina, flautando e vibr. ord.

vc *mp* mezza voce

57  $\text{♩} = 78$   
eolico

pn *mp* sempre mezza voce e legato

col Ped. ad libitum

vc *p*

63  $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{5}{16}$   $\frac{2}{4}$

pn *p*

vc *mp*

66  $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{5}{16}$   $\frac{2}{4}$

pn *mp*

vc

70  $\frac{5}{16}$   $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{5}{16}$

pn

vc

74  $\frac{5}{16}$   $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{5}{16}$   $\frac{2}{4}$  *poco più f* *mezza voce* *8va*

pn *poco più f* *mezza voce*

vc

79

5/16 2/4 5/16

pn

vc

83

5/16 2/4 5/16 2/4

pn

vc

88

poco più *f* mezza voce

5/16 2/4 5/16

pn

vc

92

5/16 2/4 5/16 2/4

8<sup>va</sup>

pn

8<sup>vb</sup>

vc

97

5/16 2/4 5/16 2/4

pn

8<sup>vb</sup>

vc

102

2/4 5/16 2/4 5/16

pn

vc

107

5/16 2/4 5/16 2/4

pn

vc

111

2/4 5/16 2/4

pn

8<sup>va</sup>

dim.

ppp

Ped.

Capriccio X

vc  $\text{♩} = 72$   
*metalico*  
sul pont.  
*mp* *smp*

pn  $\text{♩} = 72$   
*metalico*  
*mp ma brillante*  
8<sup>va</sup> 8<sup>va</sup> 8<sup>va</sup>  
Ped. Ped. Ped. simile

vc *smp*

pn 8<sup>va</sup> 8<sup>vb</sup> 8<sup>vb</sup> 8<sup>vb</sup>

vc

pn 119

vc

pn 121

vc

123

8<sup>va</sup>

sempre poco a poco crescendo

pn

sempre poco a poco crescendo

vc

125

8<sup>va</sup>

spp

f

pn

vc

127

sul pont. ————— estrem. sul pont

ord. senza sordina

*c h*

*ff* quasi recitativo

pn

8<sup>vb</sup> 8<sup>vb</sup> sff 8<sup>vb</sup> Red. 8<sup>vb</sup>

*ff* quasi recitativo E

vc

132

B G A B B A B

a 3 pp f sf d

gliss. gliss.

pn

A B B A p G

tutta forza

3

(8)

vc

138

overtone gliss.

a

ppp

8<sup>va</sup>

*sff* *mp* *ff* *h*

*sff*

I. vibr. fino alla estinzione nel corso della candenza

Red. Red. senza Red.

Cruciverba

*durata ad libitum, ma sempre espressivo*

vc *f* espress. *gliss.* *dim.* *pp* senza vibrato

Violoncello staff with notes, slurs, and dynamic markings: *f* espress., *gliss.*, *dim.*, *pp* senza vibrato.

Capriccio XI

♩ = 102  
sempre estr. sul pont.

vc *sempre f*

pn *sempre f staccatiss.*  
*sempre senza Ped.*

5/16

Piano and Violoncello staves. Piano part includes a 5/16 time signature and dynamic marking *sempre f staccatiss.* Violoncello part includes *sempre estr. sul pont.* and *sempre f*.

vc

pn 151 *8va* *8va* *8va* *8va* *8va*  
*8vb* *8vb* *8vb* *8vb*

Piano and Violoncello staves for measures 151-157. Piano part features multiple *8va* and *8vb* markings.

vc

pn 158 *8va* *8va* *8va* *8va*  
*8vb* *8vb*

Piano and Violoncello staves for measures 158-166. Piano part features *8va* and *8vb* markings.

vc

pn 167 *8va* *8va* *8va* *8va* *8va*  
*8vb* *8vb*

Piano and Violoncello staves for measures 167-173. Piano part features *8va* and *8vb* markings.



vc

175

pn

vc

182

pn

Capriccio XII

vc

ancora più

arco ord.

*pochiss. port.*

*ff*

188

4/4

ancora più

8va

*f*

8vb

Ped.

vc

*pochiss. port.*

191

pn

(8)

(8)

Ped.

Capriccio XIII

*l'istesso tempo ma come toccata*

vc *p détaché* *sf* *p*

194 *l'istesso tempo ma come toccata* *p non legato* *8<sup>va</sup>*

pn *8<sup>va</sup>*

Ped.

vc *sf* *mf*

199 *8<sup>va</sup>*

pn *mf* *8<sup>ub</sup>*

Ped.

vc *sf* *pp*

205 *8<sup>ub</sup>* *8<sup>ub</sup>*

pn *8<sup>ub</sup>* *8<sup>ub</sup>*

vc *pizz* *sempre cresc.*

210 *8<sup>va</sup>* *8<sup>va</sup>* *8<sup>va</sup>* *sempre pp staccatiss.* *sempre cresc.*

pn *8<sup>va</sup>* *8<sup>va</sup>* *8<sup>va</sup>*

Ped.

vc

215 *15<sup>ma</sup>*

pn

(8)-----

8<sup>va</sup> 8<sup>va</sup> 8<sup>va</sup>-----

8<sup>vb</sup>-----

8<sup>vb</sup>-----

vc

220

pn

8<sup>va</sup>-----

8<sup>va</sup>-----

8<sup>va</sup>-----

8<sup>vb</sup>-----

vc

arco

*ff*

226

pn

*ff*

8<sup>vb</sup>-----

8<sup>vb</sup>-----

Ped.-----

Ped.-----

Capriccio XIV

*molto rubato ad libitum*

vc

arco

*f sempre détaché*

vc

*ff*

*p* 7 7 7 7

vc

non arpeg.

tutta forza

pizz non arpegg. sempre

pizz alla chitarra

*mf* espress.

*più p*

arco estr. sul tasto

pp

arco estr. sul pont.

ord.

f sf senza vibr.

Capriccio XV

♩ = 98  
come Babbage's Difference Engine No. 2

vc

♩ = 98  
come Babbage's Difference Engine No. 2

pn

7/16

p non stacc.

pn

236

9/16

mp

pn

240

21/16 (3/16 x 7)

mf

Ped.

pn

244

251

pn

vc

259

pn

Ped.

vc

269

pn

vc

279

pn

vc

pn

289

*mp* *ff*

Ped.

vc

pn

299

*mp* *ff* *mp* *ff*

Ped.

vc

pn

309

*f*

vc

*sff* *pp* *p* *ppp*

319

pn

Red.

vc

overtone gliss.  
overtone gliss.

*ff*

329

pn

Red.

vc

338

pn

Red.

vc

347

pn

Ped. Ped.

vc

356

pn

vc

362

pn

5/16

Ped.



Capriccio XVI

vc *giocoso*  
arco  
*f*

pn 369 *5* *16* *giocoso*  
*f*  
col cello  
Ped.

vc

pn 377 *ff*  
Ped.

vc *fff* *p sub.*

pn 385 *p sub.*  
8<sup>vb</sup>

vc *ff* *gliss.* *fff* *gliss.* *overpressure*  
*tutta forza*

pn 393 *ff* *fff* *tutta forza*  
8<sup>vb</sup>