

# BÉLA BARTÓK

## Mikrokosmos

In 1945 Bela Bartok described *Mikrokosmos* as a cycle of 153 pieces for piano written for “didactic” purposes, seeing them as a series of pieces in many different styles, representing a small world, or as the “world of the little ones, the children”. Stylistically *Mikrokosmos* reflects the influence of folk music on Bartok’s life and the rhythms and

harmonies employed create music that is as modern today as when the cycle was written. The 153 pieces making up *Mikrokosmos* are divided into six volumes arranged according to technical and musical difficulty.

***Mikrokosmos* (The Definitive Edition)**  
Volumes 1-6 are available from  
**The Shop at Boosey.com**

SYNCOPIATION 1  
*from Mikrokosmos book 1*

BÉLA BARTÓK  
1881-1945

91)\*

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37\* Allegretto, ♩ = 116

*mf, legato*

79

*mf, legato*

*mp*

*poco rit.*  
*p cresc.*

*a tempo*  
*f dim.*

*ritard.*  
*p*

[50 sec.]

100

Andante, ♩ = 152

*tutte le due voci con molta espressione, sempre legato*

*p*

*calando*

[45 sec.]

125

Allegretto,  $\text{♩} = 116$

*mf*

*p, sempre legato*

*mf*

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*mf*

*pochett. rit.*

*dim.*



*a tempo*

*p, sempre legato*

*mf*

*cresc..*

*dim..*

*pochett. rit. . . a tempo*

*p*

*p, ma cantabile*

*più p, legato*

*rallentando.*

*p*

*molto*

*dim..*

*p*

*pp*

[1 min. 20 sec.]

Allegro, ♩ = 148  
*sopra*  
142 *pp*

*sotto*

*p*

2

3

3

1

1 4 5

*mp*

2 4 5

5 1 5 1 3

*poco string. - sotto*

*poco a*

5 1 3

*sopra*

1 3 2 2 3

*poco cresc.*

*sopra*

*sotto*

4 3

3 2 3 2 3

**Agitato, ♩ = 160**  
"Ouch! a cobweb!"<sup>(1)</sup>

*mf, molto agitato e lamentoso*

*sf*

5 4 1 1 4 5

3 1 2 1

1 4 5



Musical score system 1, featuring two staves. The upper staff contains a melodic line with dynamic markings *sf* and *cresc.*, and includes a triplet of eighth notes with a 4-3-1 fingering. The lower staff contains a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes and a 1-3-4 fingering.

Musical score system 2, featuring two staves. The upper staff includes the instruction *con gioia, leggero* and *sopra*. The lower staff includes *sotto*. Dynamic markings include *sf*, *sff*, *f*, and *dim.*. Fingerings 1, 2, and 3 are indicated.

Musical score system 3, featuring two staves. The upper staff includes the instruction *sotto* and *sopra*. The lower staff includes *sopra*. Fingerings 1, 2, 3, and 4 are indicated.

Musical score system 4, featuring two staves. The upper staff includes the instruction *sopra*. The lower staff includes *sotto*. Dynamic marking *p* is present. Fingerings 1, 4, and 5 are indicated.

1

*poco cresc.*

This system contains the first two measures of the piece. The right hand features a melodic line with a first fingering (1) and a trill-like figure. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment. The dynamic marking *poco cresc.* is placed between the two staves.

*dim.*

This system contains measures 3 and 4. The right hand continues with a descending melodic line. The left hand accompaniment remains consistent. The dynamic marking *dim.* is placed between the two staves.

1 4

*pp*

8

This system contains measures 5 and 6. The right hand has a first fingering (1) and a fourth fingering (4). The left hand accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes, indicated by the number 8 below the staff. The dynamic marking *pp* is placed between the two staves.

This system contains measures 7 and 8. The right hand has a long melodic line with a slur. The left hand accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern.

*pp*

This system contains measures 9 and 10. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur and a dynamic marking *pp*. The left hand accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern.