

It is perhaps not an exaggeration to say that modern piano writing began with Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849). His use of figuration and his light, elegant textures marked him as a master of keyboard technique. His dissonant, chromatic sense of harmony was unique for his time and greatly influenced Liszt and Wagner, among others. Chopin composed almost 200 pieces, almost all for the piano. Preludes, ballades, scherzos, nocturnes, waltzes, etudes and impromptus poured from his fertile imagination until tuberculosis cut short his life before he turned 40. The *Fantaisie-Impromptu*, from which this theme is taken, dates from 1834.

## Theme from the Fantaisie-Impromptu

Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849)  
Posthumous, Op. 66  
Arr. Allan Small

**Moderato**

1 *mp* 5 2 3 5 3 2 1

7 5 4 1 2 2 3 2

13 2 1 5 3 5 2

19 2 3 5 5 2 5 3 4 2 3 1 2 5 3

26 1 4 *poco ritard.* 5 3 5 3 5 3 5 2

33 *a tempo*

Musical score for measures 33-38. Treble clef with a slur over six notes. Bass clef with a sequence of chords. Fingerings: Treble (1, 3, 5, 3), Bass (5, 2, 2, 1).

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Musical score for measures 39-44. Treble clef with a slur over six notes. Bass clef with a sequence of chords. Fingerings: Treble (5, 4, 1), Bass (2, 2, 3, 2).