Notes on Berg Sonata for Madeleine's performance of the Sonata (see files upstairs) TO BE WRITTEN UP FOR LECTURE COMMENTS

Title: Alban Berg's Piano Sonata, Opus 1: A Landmark in Early Twentieth-Century Avant-Garde Music Time for reading?

BACKGROUND

b. 1885 d.1935, Dec. 23 (age 50). Planned opera on Mozart unfulfilled (Wozzeck and Lulu—latter also incomplete)

Piano Sonata Opus 1, composed 1908, published 1926. Publication date (UE and Schoenberg. C. f. Webern)

Janet Schmalfeldt's insightful essay in Morgan & Gable collection: <u>Alban Berg:</u> <u>Historical and Analytical Perspectives</u>, Oxford 1991 is the only in-depth study of the Sonata. Her article is entitled "Berg's Path to Atonality: The Piano Sonata, Op. 1."

Dave Headlam. <u>The Music of Alban Berg</u>. New Haven & London, Yale University Press, 1996: 13-14.

... the Piano Sonata, which features a high degree of motivic economy and complex motivic transformations. The harmonic language of the Sonata, although tonal, features extensive use of whole-tone collectgions and 'quartal' (interval 5-based) chords. Used sparingly in Berg's early songs, these elements are common in the music of his immediate predecessors and contemporaries, as described by Schoenberg in his Theory of Harmony (1983; first published in 1911),

Comment on the quotation: For some reasons, Headlam does not mention Schoenberg's quotation of the Berg chord from "Warm die Lüfte" (1909): Citation and piano performance.

Douglas Jarman, The Music of Alban Berg. Music Library copy.

Whereabouts of ms. unknown, according to Douglas Jarman

Fibonacci proportions? Lendvai

Schoenberg and Berg (opera)
Citation of Berg chord in Schoenberg's Harmonielehre (1911)
From Berg's Op. 2/4 ("Warm die Lüfte") PLAY

Main features:

Tonality: Key? B minor (key signature) Opening theme. PLAY

*P.9 F21 BERG 48

II. Somete (d moll) - p. 9 in Konvolut F21 Berg 4F

This is the one that is the same as the ksymphonic expilogers m Wozzeck. E - w wk Diffus radically on Wazzad gratation of the Monthey? (2) p. 9' crossed out cuting the in apply continuentransition 19.9 (The 2th) Orosa de ord on p. 11. This is the development. (Last too base to base out.) various of boso throng - still knodopment Edwilgrand hy thy ato " begins in bas 7 has posterover of and crossed wit bed (5) Dost two bor croned out - beginning I doubt comon with both themes This is the and of the "wogged" sometime this Konvolut - Chack for Continuation in & F XI BERG 9 - There is no continuation, no realy stateles quastions (musicological): 1. What does "IV. Sonata" man? Is this just the order in which the Separate "s anotas" apper in the Kornvolut? - i. E., a libraries; ordering. This Cours, back to the question of who supplied the Copitions d. Why did Bay go back to the coly work? [city other quitation - E.g., in op. 6) questions (music-therested):

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The Wossech' During South Freguet in Berg's Machloss on Source for the music of Worsel.

des in Nolethon to

F 21 By 48 MARSON "I Smate" Guma kensij. G. 13 Looks like an Earling pieces (textus" is simples) chagas: Secretal for No. 2 (der Glichend from op. 2 - crossed out - to be checked In correct id PP. 15th a cronchost, pencel veroin 1 p. 14" PP.15-16 which differ which for lother of the about 5 mm. Ep: [Michelle Schimber]: herd P.17 - correct out subject in how (wt) p. 17' aught p. 18 continus p. 17 p. 14' Continue fran p. 13' 1 - probables development 1.19 - israck augsty.
1,19' our lines in ink. paneil continuation of p. 18 P. 20' and of drostopmed madel "Reports" (BErg's Land?) End of F21 BERG 48

Well, -21 Berg 9 [Handschriftenkateley 110, 2002] Preside those in F21 BEKG 48 CAS-26-2 Oct. 24 ("Dia Souden stehem in diesem Konvolut and dan Seiten 27, 79, 71, (Ef, und 80 The Ketalog does not mention tog smedleketchbook as a separate item within the pp. 1-8 1) Contains (begins with a small notebook sketchbook w/ pre-printed stever about 4" x s" designated "He. 7 - 45Bl" i.s. double page contains Espp. pinul skrtchen om a staves kay sij of 3 "
subject numbles that of Eb somete Statches seem to be of prainings pp. 9-11 statcher on 3 stave in panel, w/ink constine addition and smendation p. 12: Very inhecting sketch: the the what? (questet variations that fellow) p,14-16: Contapout sketche. pp.17-1833: quartet layout Op. 34-37: inh statcher, 3 stores (Lied format!) pp. 36-79 was stakeles pito'. look like a mano of appointmed 88,41-453 Stower: mon quartet exteres? (Lind formal) p. 46: Sketd for Lainteven p. 47: skatch for "Lanterung" meder "Anjang" and captioned, with taxt overlag. 1.48-49 gravent strotcher, coosest out 10.50-54:50mg sketches pp. 15-16- 2 stones - End of sons in pino part? P. ST: 25 Keysig, 2 stavel PPApp. 58 - blank P. 60: 2 stoff beginning of canon (Comajor) P. 62-65: storing quartet fromet beginning ce/(anor (variation?) on p.60 1.61: blank pp. 6 6 - PoiLied skatche * P.71; Subject of first During bounty-Forgunation F21 Box 4F (p.11) MAR (M) 2: + DV: persiler getate to Dumin Waysed Soute GUER p.73: III. Lands p. 13 of F21 Borg 48, m. 15

F21 BRG 48 (Berg's hand writing of according to brunemit) X 8.1 Entwent 3 m I. Sonate O win leg so. it is not relate to the Worzed" Dum Snote, it seems. 13 II. Sonotenentwud (Best handwritig) in wh Another segment (me paged in a mind - defendativity for Seems mon ! 1 I . Sometimentusur gloss not relates to the "Wossed" Drive South, it seems. pencil skotch of different sarrine of mediatic thems at bottom of page. HT. Sands Butwent [] "Entant crossed out by sangeron who supplied crystians for others 36 Key sig In bars anding with double hat and codenis on Eb Fried Has Conton and obythmic associations with Op. I Seemd part - begins colorwint of thems P.3' continues from & at and of line 4 up. 3 1 peaced on two lower stares P. 5 Contination of the with continuation in several terry intically of English tend at and Professional Continuation of the C This opposes to be may be possible entimation (?)

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Beggs hand 3 Entwirle 3 m II. South, marked 2) Concerto version of 1.2-7 statch by I charabay? - charle hand writing - Jes with page S. takes 3-bar theme, them sketche in continuation

F21 BERK 4 E

E'S sorote (III)

Folder contains one page in Schoensey's hand—
a rewriting (statch) of the opening — With Bery's
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assumed). The Englicaption? Is 'it schools's hadmin's?

The E'S under sexual to be the most highly developed (Es?)

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sory's

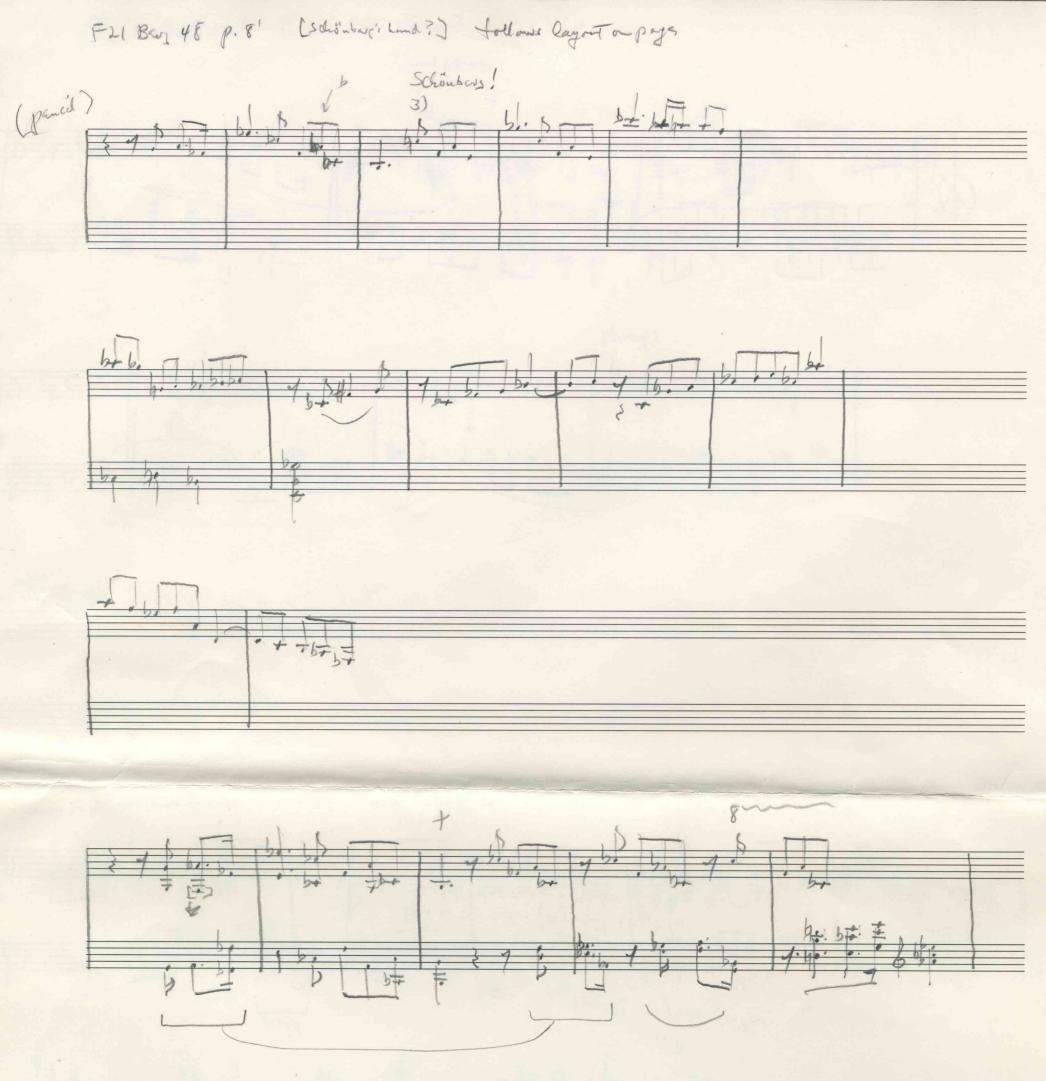
Indigent contains Tribes thank

*P.9 F21 BERG 48

IV. Somete (d moll) - p. 9 in remodent F21 Reg 4F This is the on that is the sam as the key uphanic apilogue m Wozzek For - wwk affer radically one Wozzad quotation ofthe about bear? which is now on p.10 13/ p. 9' crossed out cuting the is a fetter continued in-4.81 (8.10) in has 10 two maladie base others for warpens in the descent growing the numic cartainer on p. 11. This is the development, (Last too base 10 bases - vigorous delation crossed out.) M.105 Various of bons themes - still divelopment Edwelgen the fugato begins in bas 7 has posterous of the and crossed out bed (5)

last two book crossed out - beginning of double canon with both themes This is the said of the "wo33ed" south in this Konvolut - Chack for Continuation in & F F 21 BERG 9 - There is no continuation, no carty stateler quastions (musicological): 1, What does "IV. Sonata" man? Is this just the order in which this Separate "Sanatas" apper in the Konnodet? -i. E., a libraries a ordering. This Cours, back to the question of who supplied the Copitions do Why did Bay go back to the city work. The other guttern - E.J., in op. 6.7 questions (music-therestral): 1. Does this sonata contain was material related to Wozzeck? Use Wozzeck The Wossech' During South Fragment in Berg's Machless as Source for the musit of Worsel. ses in Nolothon to

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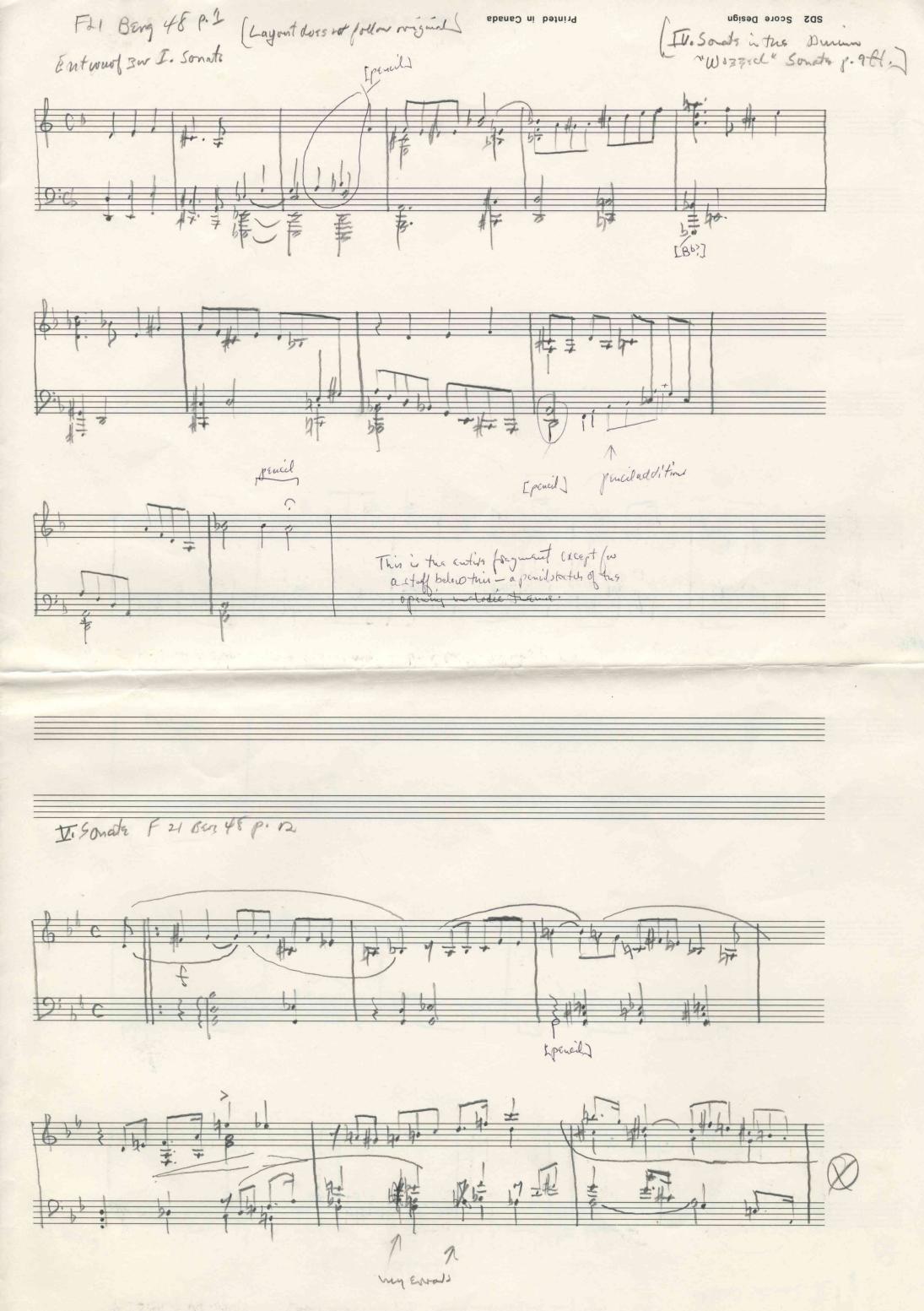


A. Sondreghtward F 21 Bong 48 p. 2



II. Souds p. 3 - This entires page in orproduced in Hands wiften ketalog p. 172





Form (themes) Sonata form, but many thematic intersections, which obscure the traditional classical form. PLAY opening of "development"

Motives, thematic development Different tempo for each theme Development

Sonata form in Wozzeck

Interval qualities:

Wt and aug. triads (ambiguities) (cite passages in the Sonata) Predilections

Douglas Jarman, George Perle (operas and Lyric Suite)

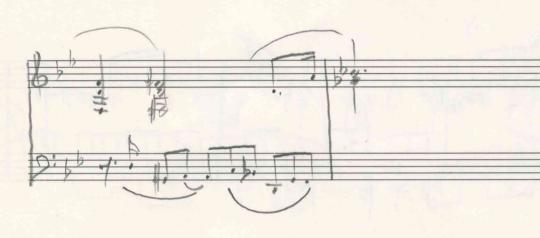
Close of paper: Numerology—Schoenberg and Webern, the number 13. 23 was Berg's fateful number (Dec. 23). He died on that day in 1935, just as Schoenberg died July 13, 1951. Webern was killed in Mittersill Sept. 15, 1945.

Where does this occur? Cite Lendvai here—too digressive?

Berg's influence

I. Sonata, could.





FILENAME
CILBERG-NOTES - MANAGES -> CILBERG-UPI-HOTES

Notes on Berg Sonata for Madeleine's performance of the Sonata (see files upstairs)

Title: Alban Berg's Piano Sonata, Opus 1: A Landmark in Early Twentieth-Century Avant-Garde Music

1885-1935 (age 50). Planned opera on Mozart unfulfilled (Wozzeck and Lulu)

Piano Sonata Opus 1, composed 1908, published 1926. Janet Schmalfeldt's insightful essay in Morgan & Gable collection: Alban Berg: Historical and Analytical Perspectives, Oxford 1991 is the only in-depth study of the Sonata.

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Close: Numerology—23 Berg's fateful number (Dec. 23) Died Dec. 24, 1935
Berg's influence

Insert inter?

no gematry, Ibelieve

NOTES USE FOR LECTURE

Filename: C:\Berg-Op1-Lecture

Backup on 3x5 diskette

Notes on Berg Sonata for Madeleine's performance of the Sonata TO BE WRITTEN UP FOR LECTURE COMMENTS

16 pe

The title of my talk is: "Alban Berg's Piano Sonata, Opus 1: A Landmark in Early Twentieth-Century Avant-Garde Music."

I would like to begin with some basic background information related to the Sonata. First, on Berg himself. Born in 1885, he died prematurely in .1935, Dec. 24 at the age of 50, leaving a legacy of major 20th century works.. His planned opera on Mozart therefore remained unfulfilled, as did his opera, <u>Lulu</u>, which is often performed with completion of Act IIIby Friedrich Cerha in 1979, based upon Berg's sketches.

Piano Sonata Opus 1, composed 1908, published 1926. Publication date (UE and Schoenberg. C. f. Webern) Why is this music important? Two reasons: (1) It is a virtuoso piano work from the early 20th c. and a major item in that repertoire; (2) It is a

Janet Schmalfeldt's insightful essay in Morgan & Gable collection: <u>Alban Berg: Historical and Analytical Perspectives</u>, Oxford 1991 is the only in-depth study of the Sonata, as far as I know. Her article is entitled "Berg's Path to Atonality: The Piano Sonata, Op. 1."

Foretaste of Wozzeck in the Sonata: the Wir arme Leut' theme

Dave Headlam. <u>The Music of Alban Berg</u>. New Haven & London, Yale University Press, 1996: 13-14. QUOTE

... the Piano Sonata, which features a high degree of motivic economy and complex motivic transformations. The harmonic language of the Sonata, although tonal, features extensive use of whole-tone collections and 'quartal' (interval 5-based) chords. Used sparingly in Berg's early songs, these elements are common in the music of his immediate predecessors and contemporaries, as described by Schoenberg in his Theory of Harmony (1983; first published in 1911). We are familiar with the whole-tone component, as exemplified in Debussy's famous "Voiles" (sails).

Comment on the Headlam quotation: For some reason, Headlam does not mention Schoenberg's quotation of the Berg chord from "Warm die Lüfte" (1909): Citation and piano performance.

Douglas Jarman, The Music of Alban Berg. Need Music Library copy.?

Whereabouts of ms. unknown, according to Douglas Jarman

Schoenberg and Berg (opera issue—Schoenberg discouraged Berg from Wozzeck (unsuitable libretto). S. consistently competed with his most prominent students. But: Citation of Berg chord in Schoenberg's Harmonielehre (1911) From Berg's Op. 2/4 ("Warm die Lüfte") PLAY

Main features:

Tonality: Key? B minor (key signature) Opening theme. PLAY

The issue of tonality in Wozzeck. Berg's 1929 radio talk on this opera (reproduced in translation in Redlich's Alban Berg: The Man and His Music (1957). In this talk (directed to a lay audience) Berg states that the formal cohesion of the music is achieved QUOTE "without the medium of tonality." The same might be applied, with reservations, to the Piano Sonata, many sections of which exceed the boundaries of traditional tonality.

Footnote: I have written about Berg's concept of tonality in my article, "The Mask of Tonality: Alban Berg's Symphonic Epilogue to <u>Wozzeck,"</u> published in Morgan & Gable, <u>Alban Berg: Historical and Analytical Perspectives</u>, Oxford, 1991, and in "Tonality, Symbol, and Structural Levels in Berg's <u>Wozzeck," The Musical Quarterly</u>, Vol. 66, No. 4, 1985.

The sonata form here is not unique in the works of Berg. Act II, sc. 1 of Wozzeck is formally organized in traditional sonata form, although the music of course is atonal. My article on Wozzeck (which includes pc set readings of motives associated with the persona of the work) BEGIN HERE

Form (themes) Single movement in Sonata form, but many thematic intersections, which obscure the traditional classical form. PLAY opening of "development"

Motives, thematic development Different tempo for each theme PLAY Development

Sonata form in Wozzeck. Berg's radio talk in Redlich.g

Interval qualities:

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Berg's influence

No direct successors, but Berg and Gershwin (my article) Evidence in Porgy and Bess My other writings on Berg – see vitae Alban Berg, Sonate, Op. 1

"I received your scores and was very happy to see the sonata again. It really is a very beautiful and original piece." Letter from Arnold Schoenberg to Alban Berg Jan. 13, 1912.

Schoenberg was not the only musician to recognize the special qualities of this work, which attracted attention soon after its existence became known. It was performed many times by the virtuoso Viennese pianist, Edward Steuermann, a proponent of modern music and member of the Schoenberg Circle. Remarkably, however, the work was not published until 1926, after Berg had become internationally famous through his first opera, *Wozzeck*.

The work dates from 1908, when its composer was 23 years old and still a student of Schoenberg. Among a number of fragments, it was the only piano music Berg actually completed; his high regard for this music is clearly represented by the assignment to it of his first opus number. In his correspondence with his wife, Helene, he often referred to it—sometimes with the modest qualifier, "old sonata."

Partaking both of the world of traditional tonality as well as of the new atonal terrain being explored by Schoenberg in his contemporaneous song-cycle, the *George Lieder*, Op.15 (1908-1909), Berg's *Sonate* remains a timeless work of great expressive power, depth, and pianistic beauty, one that requires of the performer technical skill and musical sensitivity of the highest order.

Although the tonality of B minor (after the Liszt Sonata?) is specified by the key signature and confirmed by the first and final cadences, the ever-changing harmonic colors projected by the complex linearity of the music occupy the foreground, with long sections of unrelenting tension, relieved by clear changes of thematic content—for instance, the entrance of the second theme in the exposition—changes that are accompanied by distinctive rhythms and contours, and marked by new tempi and dynamics.

As the title of the work suggests, the large-scale form of Berg's *Sonate* is that of the traditional first-movement sonata: First, Second and Closing Theme areas are clearly defined by rhythm, dynamics, and melodic contour, as are development section and reprise. (One thinks of the Brahms Sonata, which Berg would certainly have known.) The conceptual originality, to which Schoenberg refers in his letter, engages several dimensions, including phrase structures whose lengths are irregular (compared to those of the sonata in the classic and romantic eras), elaborate rhythmic patterns, but, above all, harmonies, which (to oversimplify) consist of a mixture of atonal sonorities and more familiar sounds relateable to whole-tone scales, often producing an ineffable sonorous panorama.

Of considerable historical significance is the relation of the basic harmonic vocabulary of the *Sonate* to the work many would regard as his masterpiece, the opera *Wozzeck* (Opus 7), the composition of which began in 1917, some nine years after his Opus 1. The primary clue to this connection is given at the very beginning of the *Sonate*, where the first chord is of the same type he assigned to the persona of *Marie* in Wozzeck. Indeed, the harmonic vocabulary we hear in the *Sonate* is closely related to that of his later music, confirming a continuity of creative thought that was tragically terminated by Berg's death in 1935.

Well, Three sketches all precede those in F21 BETTE 48 CAS-26-2, F21 Berg 9 [Handschriftenkatolog 110, 2002] ("Dia Souden stehen in diesem Konvolut and dan Seiten 27, 79, 71, (Ef, und 80"/ The Ketalog does not mention to smedle Ketchbook as a separate item within the pp. 1-8 1) Contains (begins with a small notebook/sketchbook w/pro-printed staves about 4" x s" designated "Ho. 7 - 4 Bl" i.s. double page contains & pp. subject rucubles trad of Eb somete Statches saw to be of prairings 19.9-11 Statcher on 3 stower in panel, w/ink constant additions and smandation p. 12: Very inhocting sketch: the states of what? (greatest variations that fellow) p, 14-16: Contapout sketche. 88.17-1833: quartet layout PP.34-3Timh statcher, 3 stores (Lier front!) pp. 36-79 was sketches pito'. look like a memo of appointmed 88.41-413 stower: mon quartet exterder? (Lied format) p. 46: Sketch for Lanteveny p. 47: skatch for "Lanterung" meded "Anjang" and captioned, with taxt overlag. 1.48-49 graviat stictcher, coosest out 10.50-54:5my sketches PPICS-16- 2 stores - End of song in place part? P. ST: 15 Kezsig, 2 stavel fffpp. 58 - blank P. 60; 2 stoff begunny of caron (Cmajal p. 62-65: storis quart fruet beginning ce/(anor (variation?) on p. 60 pp. 6 6 - 70: Lied skatcher * p.71; Subject of first Dume County-Forgular in F21 Bors 4F (p.11) 1 P. M. 2: 200 : popsible potate to Duming Waysed Soute GUER p.73: III. Lowals p. 83 of F21 Beng 48, m. 15

F21 BR6 48 # 8.1 Entwent 3 w I. Sonate (Bery's hand writing of according to brunemit) Cerps num a dies not plats to the Wogged" Dum Sante, it seems. 13 II. Sonotmatund (Bay's handwrity) in wh Another segment (one paged in a mind - defen autury for Seems mon ! Places not rolder to the "Wagged" Drive South, it seems. parcil skotch of different sarrine of maladie thems at bottom of page. III. Sands Enterest III "Entered crossed out by seeges on who supplied experious for others 20 bars and in with doubt hat and cadenes on Eb Fried Has Conton and onlythmic association with Op. I Seemd port - begin wo variant of thems continues from & at and of line 4 up. 3 1 gentil on two lower stares P.5 co-lindon of the with continuation in the several trys indicated in product at and in product at and in product at and in (purposetuits) This opposes to be my the preside continuation (?)

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— Penellskelling for the south. This var marked 1) again, not in
Beggs hand 3 Entwirle 3 md III. Sonato, marked 2) Closer to version of 12-7 11 P.8 stotch by I cheeder ? - that hardwriting - I'm with py

S. takes 3-bas theme, them sketche in continuation

* This country seemed and a mile of

F21 BERLY (ST)

Folder contains one page in Schousey's hand
a reverity (statch) of the opening - with Bery's

Cogotton "Schinbers!" Ino keny sig. - Et

assumed). Die Esthi Bery's caption? Is it schockey's hadming?

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Subject contain Tribe chard

Then Bery's