

The Kittatinny Mountains

The northwestern corner of New Jersey is a mountainous area known as The Appalachian Ridge and Valley Region. It is part of the Appalachian Mountains that run from New York to Alabama. In New Jersey, the Kittatinny Mountains are a part of this region. The highest point in the range, High Point, is also the highest point in the state. It rises 1,803 feet above sea level. An archeological site proves that humans have lived in this area since around 8000 B.C.

Maestoso (♩ = 76–80)

Dennis Alexander

Measures 1-10 of the piece. The score is in 4/4 time, key of D major. Measures 1-3 are marked *f* (forte). Measures 4-6 are marked *sub. p* (subito piano). Measures 7-10 are marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The piece concludes with a 3/4 time signature change at the end of measure 10. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5. Dynamic markings include *f*, *sub. p*, and *mf*. Performance markings include *8va* (octave up) for the final three measures.

Moderato e nobilmente (♩ = 80–84)

Measures 11-14 of the piece. The score is in 3/4 time, key of D major. Measures 11-14 are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The piece concludes with a 3/4 time signature change at the end of measure 14. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5. Performance markings include *3* (triplets) for the first three measures.

Early Blues

In the early 1900s, jazz musicians from New Jersey often practiced their skills in night clubs like The Alcazar and The Piccadilly Club in Newark before going on to greater fame in New York City. Many famous jazz pianists were from Newark, including Willie "The Lion" Smith, Thomas "Fats" Waller and Donald "The Lamb" Lambert. William "Count" Basie, a native of Red Bank, is considered to be one of the most important figures in the history of jazz. Today, jazz is still an integral part of the music scene in New Jersey.

Dennis Alexander

Cool blues tempo (♩ = 100–102)

The piano score is written for a grand piano in 6/8 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second system starts at measure 6 and includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The third system starts at measure 11 and includes a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fourth system starts at measure 16 and includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The score is characterized by flowing eighth-note lines in the bass and more static, chordal textures in the treble. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5, and articulation is shown with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 6, 11, and 16 are boxed at the start of their respective systems.

NO LEFT TURN.

If you have never driven in New Jersey, you are in for a surprise—there are no left turns allowed in the state! For someone new to this situation, it can be a harrowing experience. This movement expresses the frenzy and frustration of a “newbie” beginning a road trip through the maze of concrete, steel, and other drivers—all intent on getting to their destination on time and as quickly as possible.

Dennis Alexander

Molto allegro (♩ = 116–126)
(Off and running)

5

9

13

mf *f* *mf* *f*

mp *mf*