

Happy Birthday Variations

arrangement of the theme and 7 variations

Peter Heidrich

*arranged by Paul De Bra for
accordion quintet
(1, 2, 3, 4, bass)*

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of his string ensemble Peter Heidrich composed Happy Birthday Variations, consisting of the theme and 14 variations. This arrangement for accordion quintet (or orchestra) contains the theme and 7 variations, and was first made and played (by Avanti) back in 1996 and was (25 years) later revised that (and entered in Musescore). The whole composition takes about 20 minutes, but this arrangement only about 6.

This is of course a happy, festive, composition and arrangement, and it is relatively easy to play.

While the Happy Birthday theme is in the public domain in many countries, this "Variations" composition is not (and won't be for a very long time to come).

Professor P has made a recording available on YouTube.

This arrangement is provided under the Creative Commons Attribution license (but the composition is not).

Happy-Birthday-Variations

theme + 7 out of 14 variations

Peter Heindrich
arr. Paul De Bra

1. Theme, Moderato

Musical score for the theme of Happy-Birthday-Variations, featuring five staves: Acc. 1, Acc. 2, Acc. 3, Acc. 4, and Bass. The key signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The score consists of two measures. In the first measure, Acc. 1 starts with a forte dynamic (f), followed by Acc. 2, Acc. 3, and Acc. 4. The Bass staff begins with a dynamic of 'f'. In the second measure, Acc. 1 starts with a dynamic of 'mf', followed by Acc. 2, Acc. 3, and Acc. 4. The Bass staff continues with a dynamic of 'f'.

Musical score for Variation 1 of Happy-Birthday-Variations, featuring five staves: I, II, III, IV, and B. The key signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The tempo is marked 'f'. The score consists of two measures. In the first measure, all staves begin with a dynamic of 'f'. In the second measure, all staves continue with a dynamic of 'f'.

2. Bach, Andante

Happy-Birthday-Variations

(if possible can also be 8va)

I
II
III
IV
B

f

mf

f

13

I
II
III
IV
B

c

c

c

c

f

Happy-Birthday-Variations

3

3. Haydn, Allegretto

19

26

Musical score for five staves (I, II, III, IV, B) showing measures 26-27. The score consists of five staves, each with a different clef and key signature. Measure 26 starts with dynamic *f*. Staff I has eighth-note pairs. Staff II has eighth-note pairs followed by eighth-note triplets. Staff III has eighth-note pairs. Staff IV has eighth-note pairs followed by eighth-note triplets. Staff B has eighth-note pairs. Measure 27 starts with dynamic *mp*. Staff I has eighth-note pairs. Staff II has eighth-note triplets. Staff III has eighth-note pairs. Staff IV has eighth-note triplets. Staff B has eighth-note pairs. Measure 28 starts with dynamic *f*.

Happy-Birthday-Variations

To Coda
(= var. 4)

33

mp

f

40

p

pp

p

pp

p

pp

Happy-Birthday-Variations

5

49

D.S. al Coda

I

II

III

IV

B

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

D.S. al Coda

6 4. Mozart, Andante

Happy-Birthday-Variations

56

I *mp*
bellow shake

II *mp*
bellow shake

III *mp*

IV *mp*

B *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

59

I

II (end shake)

III

IV

B *mp*

61

I poco a poco dim.
II restart bellow shake
III poco a poco dim.
IV poco a poco dim.
B poco a poco dim.

64

I *p*
II *p*
III *p*
IV *p*
B *p*

5. Beethoven, Allegretto Happy-Birthday-Variations

(if possible can also be 8va)

67

I II III IV B

p

f

p

p

p

p

p

73

1. 2.

I II III IV B

=f

p

f

> f

p

p

p

f

> f

p

p

p

f

p

p

p

f

79

I
II
III
IV
B

84

I
II
III
IV
B

Happy-Birthday-Variations

90

I
II
III
IV
B

p

p

p

mp

mp

p

96

I
II
III
IV
B

f

p

pp

6. Schumann, Assai agitato

Happy-Birthday-Variations

11

102

I
II
III
IV
B

113

1. 2.

I
II
III
IV
B

Happy-Birthday-Variations

121 *meno mosso*

I *sf p*

II *sf p*

III *sf p*

IV *sf p*

B *sf p*

127

I

II

III

IV

B

Happy-Birthday-Variations

7. Brahms, Allegro ma non troppo

144

I

II

III

IV

B

Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 149. The score consists of five staves: I (Violin 1), II (Violin 2), III (Viola), IV (Cello), and B (Piano). The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The piano part (B) features sustained notes with grace notes. Measure 149 begins with a dynamic of *mf*.

155

I
II
III
IV
B

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

161

I
II
III
IV
B

f

f

f

f

f

8. Strauss, Vivace

168

f leggiero

f leggiero

f

leggiero

f

pizz.

f

175

3

3

3

3

>

>

>

>

>

Happy-Birthday-Variations

17

182

I
II
III
IV
B

molto rit.

Largo

Presto

ff

190

I
II
III
IV
B

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

PDB 13/1/96

v2.: 8/2/21