

THE CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC AND WORSHIP

PRESENTS THE

SENIOR PROJECT
PRESENTATION
OF

ZAC JAMES

THE ROLE OF HARMONIC AND FORMAL
ELEMENTS AS THEY RELATE TO
PERFORMANCE PRACTICES IN
CHOPIN'S *BALLADE NO. 3*
IN A-FLAT MAJOR, OP. 47

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2012
4:15 P.M.

RECITAL HALL
BOLTHOUSE CENTER FOR MUSIC
DIXON MINISTRY CENTER



ABSTRACT

This project examines *Ballade No. 3 in A-flat Major*, Op. 47 by Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849), analyzing it from the perspective of a music theorist. The primary focus of this analysis is Chopin's use of harmony in *Ballade No. 3*, and the secondary focus is his use of form, with the purpose being practical application and improved interpretations of *Ballade No. 3* for the piano performer. In my formal analysis, I base the form of *Ballade No. 3* on four independent themes accompanied by supplementary sections of transitional material. My harmonic analysis works through Chopin's four themes and modulations, which focus mainly in A-flat Major, C Major, f minor and c-sharp minor. I conclude that this type of analysis can prove to be beneficial for performers of Chopin's piano music, leading to quicker memorization, refined phrase dynamics, appropriate melodic emphasis, and more musical interpretations.

Assisted by Deanna Ruman, piano
and Anna Reisenweaver, technical assistant

Zac has been advised in this presentation by
Charles Clevenger, Sandra Yang, and Roger O'Neel.

This project is presented in partial fulfillment
of the Bachelor of Arts in Music degree.

*No flash photography, please.
Please turn off all cellphones.*



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