

***Swing a Fugue* (1949)**

Though *Swing a Fugue* was written in 1949, it was later dedicated to Elaine Keillor, who premiered the work along with *Melos* (1949) on November 6, 1987. This dedication is appropriate, given Keillor's numerous performances and recordings of Weinzweig's piano works.

The title is deceiving in that it does not contain "swing eighths"; Weinzweig's careful slurring, though, does create a lilting sway that captures the swing spirit. *Swing a Fugue* is also not a fugue in any strict technical sense; the work does, though, include two independent and contrapuntal voices (right and left hands). In these two ways, *Swing a Fugue* demonstrates the flexibility with which Weinzweig engages with his musical influences.

Though not technically virtuosic, *Swing a Fugue* requires agility from its performer, and a sensitivity to all the many changes in dynamics and articulations. These elements combine to make a brief, but exciting musical work that is sure to entertain any audience.

Written by Alexa Woloshyn