

The Rebuild of a Fallen State
for piano four-hands
Op. 23

Lance Mok
Hong Kong: September 2025

ca. 7 mins

In times of upheaval, history repeats itself: a state collapses, a people are silenced, and a 'rebuild' begins. Yet reconstruction is rarely neutral; it can restore, but it also erases, forcing new systems onto those who have lost their voice.

In *The Rebuild of a Fallen State*, the piano becomes that contested ground: the primo embodies the silenced, carrying fragments of a dignified march that longs to be heard, while the secondo assumes the role of the dominant force, violently interrupting and reshaping the music. The full theme appears only once following the collapse of the oppressed, reduced to an echo — the ashes and ghosts of what could have been. A forced reconstruction follows. The oppressed voice is made to succumb, absorbed into a new order that carries the weight of control but not the spirit of what came before: when a fallen state is rebuilt, whose voice survives — and at what cost?

The work was premiered by pianists Clíodna Shanahan and Simon Callaghan on 2 November 2025 at the Clements Prize Competition 2025 at Conway Hall, London, United Kingdom, and was awarded Third Prize.

Instrumentation: piano four-hands

The Rebuild of a Fallen State

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Secondo

4

p

6

ff

mp

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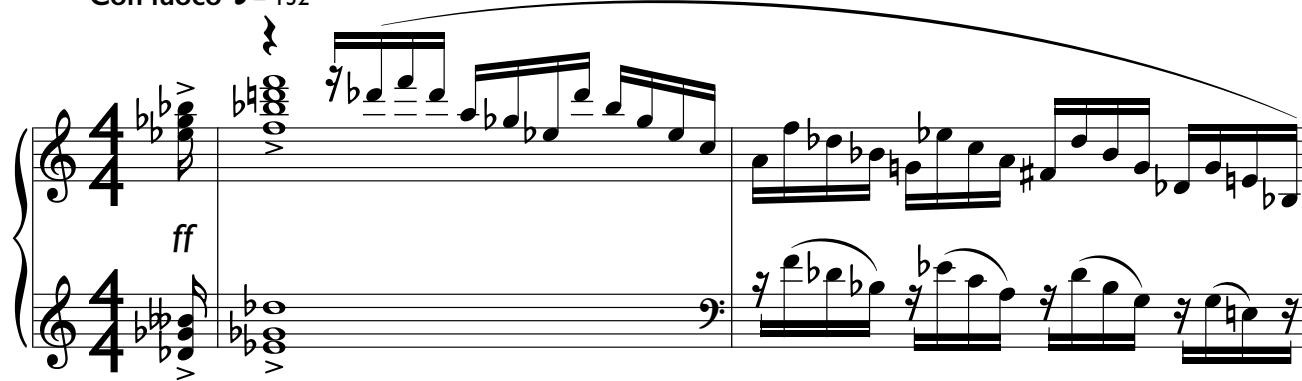
Lance Mok

Primo

Con fuoco $\text{♩} = 132$

ff

Ped. 



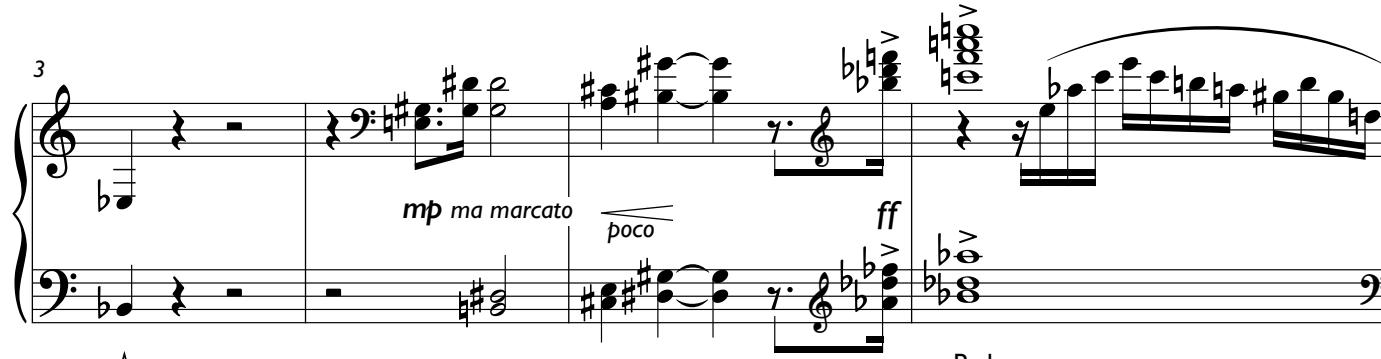
This page contains two staves. The top staff is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The bottom staff is also in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The music is dynamic 'ff' (fortissimo). Pedal markings are present on both staves. The tempo is marked as 'Con fuoco' with a quarter note equal to 132.

3

mp *ma marcato* **poco**

ff

Ped. 



This page contains two staves. The top staff is in common time with a key signature of one sharp. The bottom staff is in common time with a key signature of one sharp. The dynamic changes to 'mp' (mezzo-forte) with a 'ma marcato' (marked) instruction and 'poco' (a little) dynamic. The dynamic then changes to 'ff' (fortissimo). Pedal markings are present on both staves.

7

I



This page contains two staves. The top staff is in common time with a key signature of one sharp. The bottom staff is in common time with a key signature of one sharp. The dynamic is indicated by a bracket as 'ff' (fortissimo). Pedal markings are present on both staves. A box labeled 'I' is located in the upper right corner of the page.

The Rebuild of a Fallen State

Secondo

56

ff
tr

fffff

allarg. 8 Meno mosso $\text{♩} = 92$

9
4

9
4

60

fffff

pp haunting

8

62

fffff

pp

8

64

fffff

pp

8

9

4
4

4
4

10

Primo

8

56

Primo

allarg.

ffff

ffff

8 **Meno mosso** $\text{♩} = 92$

dramatically collapse but silently depress keys

8

59

9

4

9

4

Ped.

Ped.

slowly and weakly rise from collapse

8

63

9

4

4

4

4

4

4

(Ped.)

Ped.

Ped.

ppp grave ma lotano

68

una corda

(Ped.)

Secondo

Secondo

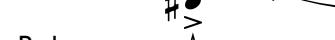
132 **16**

134

136

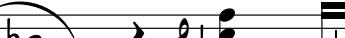
138

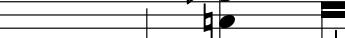
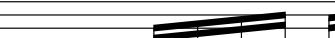
140

Ped.  

Ped.  

Ped.  

Ped.  

Ped.  

8

Primo

16

8

132

4 4

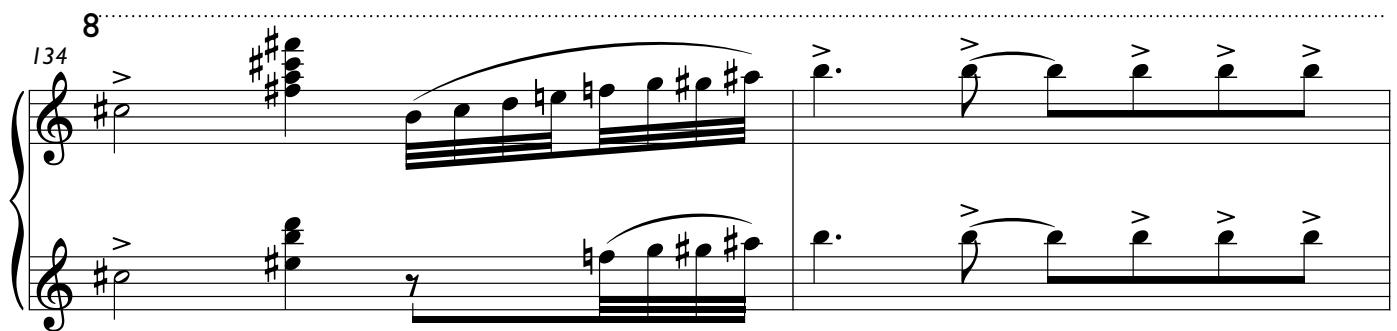
ff

3



8

134

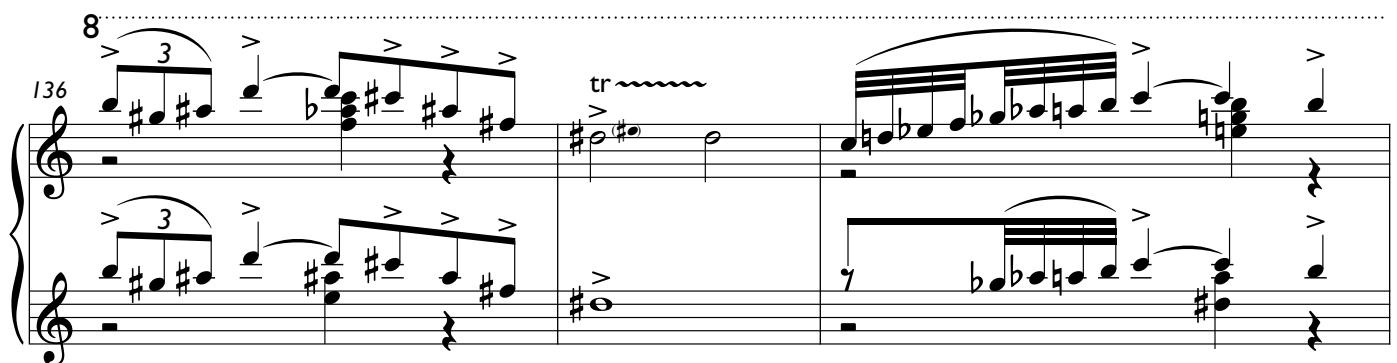


8

136

3

tr ~~~~



8

139

b

7:4

mp

