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The Inner Geometry of the Prelude op.74 no.1 by Skrjabin.

The Preludes for piano by Skrjabin have been analyzed in depth by many musicologists throughout the past decades. Despite the studies already written, this paper aims to analyze one of them according to a new analytical approach. The piece taken into consideration is the Prelude op.74 no.1. The starting point will be a geometrical view of the harmony. In the large field of studies on the relationship between mathematics and music, the aspect of the geometric representation of chords has already been investigated. For example, the studies of Dmitri Tymoczko are fundamental in this sense. This study builds on what has been done so far and wants to show how certain geometric figures derive from the analysis of chords in the Prelude. In other words the harmonic chain of the piece will be described geometrically, using hexagons. These figures will be represented graphically. Thus, the analysis of the piece will be a graphic analysis on how these figures change. The comparison among the harmonies of the composition will by made comparing the hexagons: their characteristics will reflect the characteristics of the chords. Such a type of study is the first step toward a detailed and accurate theory of harmony explained geometrically. (Received September 14, 2020)