

# SOLO XTREME

8 X-traordinary and Challenging Piano Pieces

## MELODY BOBER

The term “xtreme” is often used in sports to indicate actions that go beyond the ordinary. The pieces in Solo Xtreme were written to encourage students to achieve similar feats. The solos in this series challenge students to change locations, cross hand-over-hand, play large chords, use the pedal to create color and moods, and vary articulations. At the same time, they expand technique and musicianship.

In creating these pieces, I incorporated ideas that would encourage students to reach for new heights whether playing for their own enjoyment or for family and friends. The pieces also make impressive recital and contest solos. Enjoy!

*Melody Bober*

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# Mountain Grandeur

Melody Bober

Grandioso (♩ = 100)

Musical notation for measures 1-3. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 1 starts with a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated: 5 3 1 in the right hand and 1 3 5 in the left hand. Measures 2 and 3 feature a melodic line in the right hand with fingerings 2 4 and 5 2 1, and a bass line with fingerings 2 4 and 5 3 1.

Musical notation for measures 4-6. Measure 4 is marked with a box containing the number 4. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (*mf*). Fingerings include 3 1 and 4 2 in the right hand, and 5 and 1 in the left hand. Measure 6 has a fingering of 2 in the right hand.

Musical notation for measures 7-9. Measure 7 is marked with a box containing the number 7. The dynamic is mezzo-piano (*mp*). Measure 8 has a fingering of 3 1 in the right hand. Measure 9 features a tremolo effect in the right hand.

Musical notation for measures 10-12. Measure 10 is marked with a box containing the number 10. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (*mf*). Measure 11 has a fingering of 2 in the right hand. Measure 12 features a crescendo hairpin and a fingering of 1 in the left hand.

# Trieste Tarantella\*

Melody Bober

Briskly (♩ = 104)

The musical score is written for piano in 6/8 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system (measures 1-4) features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The melody starts with a half note rest, followed by eighth notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The bass line starts with a half note rest, followed by eighth notes G3, A3, B3, and C4. Dynamics are marked *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the melody and bass line. The third system (measures 9-12) features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The fourth system (measures 13-16) continues the melody and bass line. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

\* Trieste is a city in northeastern Italy.

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# The Expedition

Melody Bober

Victoriously (♩ = 84)

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The score is in 6/8 time, with a tempo of ♩ = 84. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The piece is marked 'Victoriously'. The first two measures are marked *mp* and the last two *mf*. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 3 1, 3 1, 4 2, 5 3, 4 1, 5 2, 4 1, 5 2. The bass line has fingerings 1 5, 1 5, 1, 1 3, 2 5.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Measure 5 is boxed with the number 5. The first two measures are marked *f* and the last two *p*. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 5 1, 5 1, 5 1, 1 5, 3 1, 3 1. The bass line has fingerings 1, 1 3, 2 5.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Measure 9 is boxed with the number 9. The first two measures are marked *mp* and the last two *mf*. The text '2nd time to Coda ⊕' is written above measure 12. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 4 1, 5 2, 4 1, 5 1, 4 1, 2. The bass line has a fingering 1 5 at the end of measure 12.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Measure 13 is boxed with the number 13. The tempo is marked 'Moving along (♩ = 120)'. The piece is marked *f*. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 5 3, 5 3, 5 3. The bass line has fingerings 1 5, 1 5, 5, 5.

# Starry Night

Melody Bober

Warmly (♩ = 116)

Musical notation for measures 1-3. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 1: Treble clef has a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) beamed together, followed by a dotted quarter note (C5). Bass clef has a half note (G3) with a fingering of 5. Measure 2: Treble clef has a quarter note (A4), an eighth note (B4), and a quarter note (C5) beamed together. Bass clef has a half note (F3) with a fingering of 5. Measure 3: Treble clef has a quarter note (B4), an eighth note (C5), and a quarter note (D5) beamed together. Bass clef has a half note (E3) with a fingering of 5. Dynamics: *p* (piano).

Musical notation for measures 4-6. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 4: Treble clef has a quarter note (G4) with a fingering of 2, followed by a quarter note (A4) with a fingering of 1. Bass clef has a half note (G3) with a sharp sign. Measure 5: Treble clef has a triplet of eighth notes (B4, C5, D5) beamed together, followed by a dotted quarter note (E5). Bass clef has a half note (F3) with a sharp sign. Measure 6: Treble clef has a quarter note (D5), an eighth note (C5), and a quarter note (B4) beamed together. Bass clef has a half note (E3) with a sharp sign. Dynamics: *mp* (mezzo-piano).

Musical notation for measures 7-9. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 7: Treble clef has a quarter note (A4) with a fingering of 4, followed by a quarter note (B4) with a fingering of 2. Bass clef has a half note (G3) with a sharp sign. Measure 8: Treble clef has a quarter note (C5) with a fingering of 1, followed by a quarter note (D5) with a fingering of 4, and a quarter note (E5) with a fingering of 1. Bass clef has a half note (F3) with a sharp sign. Measure 9: Treble clef has a quarter note (D5) with a fingering of 3, followed by a quarter note (E5) with a fingering of 1. Bass clef has a half note (G3) with a sharp sign. Dynamics: *mf* (mezzo-forte).

Musical notation for measures 10-12. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 10: Treble clef has a quarter note (G4) with a fingering of 2, followed by a quarter note (A4) with a fingering of 1. Bass clef has a half note (F3) with a flat sign. Measure 11: Treble clef has a triplet of eighth notes (B4, C5, D5) beamed together, followed by a quarter note (E5) with a fingering of 3, and a quarter note (F5) with a fingering of 1. Bass clef has a half note (G3) with a flat sign. Measure 12: Treble clef has a quarter note (E5) with a fingering of 2, followed by a quarter note (D5) with a fingering of 1, and a quarter note (C5) with a fingering of 3. Bass clef has a half note (F3) with a flat sign. Dynamics: *mf* (mezzo-forte).

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# Scherzo

Melody Bober

Lively (♩ = 104)

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of staves, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs).  
- **System 1 (Measures 1-2):** The right hand plays a melodic line with eighth-note patterns, starting with a finger number '1'. The left hand plays a bass line with eighth-note patterns, starting with a finger number '4'. Dynamics include *sfz* and *mp*.  
- **System 2 (Measures 3-4):** The right hand features chords with fingerings '5 3 1' and '5 3 1'. The left hand continues with eighth-note patterns, starting with a finger number '1'. Dynamics include *f* and *simile*.  
- **System 3 (Measures 5-6):** The right hand continues with chords. The left hand continues with eighth-note patterns.  
- **System 4 (Measures 7-8):** The right hand continues with chords. The left hand continues with eighth-note patterns, starting with a finger number '1'. Dynamics include *mf*.



# Prelude in E Minor

Melody Bober

Lyrical (♩ = 144)

*mp*

*mf*

*f*

*f*

4

8

11