

Jazz SophistiCAT

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7 SOPHISTICATED AND MOTIVATIONAL JAZZ SOLOS FOR
LATE ELEMENTARY TO EARLY INTERMEDIATE PIANISTS OF ALL AGES

Dennis Alexander ~ Dennis Thurmond

FOREWORD

Jazz piano today includes so many more styles than just a few decades ago. We now have new age, funk, blues, boogie, straight-ahead and other genres that are all lumped under the general heading "jazz." Jazz piano has even found its way into college and university curriculums—one can now obtain a degree in jazz.

The purpose of this book is to explore some of the diverse styles of jazz piano. Although jazz playing often involves complex rhythms, large stretches of the hand and fast scale-like patterns, we have presented here a sophisticated and interesting sound within an appropriate level that still maintains the harmonic and rhythmic integrity of each style. Best wishes to all future "SophistiCATs" and their teachers!

Dennis Alexander

Dennis Thurmond

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A General MIDI disk is available (14406), which includes a full piano recording and background accompaniment.



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Homage to Chick Corea

Chick Corea is a multiple Grammy award-winning jazz pianist, keyboardist, and composer. He plays many styles ranging from traditional jazz to electronic to contemporary solo piano.

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Gentle lullaby (♩ = 50)

Musical notation for the first system of the piece. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 50. The first measure of the bass line is marked with a dynamic of *mp* and includes fingering numbers 5 and 2. The melody in the treble staff is a simple, gentle line.

Musical notation for the second system of the piece. It consists of two staves. The first measure of the treble staff is marked with a dynamic of *mf* and includes a fingering number 1. The bass line continues with the same pattern as the first system, marked with a dynamic of *mf* and fingering numbers 5 and 2. The word *simile* is written below the bass line. The system ends with a repeat sign.

Musical notation for the third system of the piece. It consists of two staves. The first measure of the treble staff is marked with a dynamic of *mf* and includes a fingering number 1. The bass line continues with the same pattern as the first system, marked with a dynamic of *mf* and fingering numbers 5 and 2. The system ends with a repeat sign.

Musical notation for the fourth system of the piece. It consists of two staves. The first measure of the treble staff is marked with a dynamic of *f* and includes a fingering number 4. The bass line continues with the same pattern as the first system, marked with a dynamic of *f* and fingering numbers 5 and 2. The system ends with a repeat sign.

Miss Kitty's Ditty

Bouncy (♩ = 160) (♩♩ = $\overset{\frown}{\text{3}}$)

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Musical notation for measures 1-3. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Bouncy' with a quarter note equal to 160 beats per minute. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present. The right hand features a sequence of chords: F#4 (5), G4 (1), A4 (5), B4 (1), C5 (5), D5 (1), E5 (5), F#5 (1). The left hand plays a bass line with notes: C3 (1), G2 (4), F#2, E2, D2, C2.

Musical notation for measures 4-6. The right hand continues with chords: G#4 (5), A4 (1), B4 (5), C5 (1), D5 (5), E5 (1), F#5 (5), G#5 (1). The left hand continues with notes: C2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2.

Musical notation for measures 7-9. The right hand continues with chords: A4 (5), B4 (1), C5 (5), D5 (1), E5 (5), F#5 (1), G#5 (5), A5 (1). The left hand continues with notes: C2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2.

Musical notation for measures 10-12. The right hand continues with chords: B4 (5), C5 (1), D5 (5), E5 (1), F#5 (5), G#5 (1), A5 (5), B5 (1). The left hand continues with notes: C2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2.