

MR. A. PRESENTS

FIRST LYRIC PIECES

7 Romantic Late Elementary Piano Solos

DENNIS ALEXANDER

One of the most satisfying aspects of teaching piano is observing the late elementary level student become a musical artist, capable of expressing many moods and styles through the performance of interesting and musical piano compositions. As a teacher, composer and performer, I am always moved when I hear a young student play a romantic piece with expressive phrasing and beautiful tone.

I have written this set of pieces to help inspire and enable the late elementary student to perform in a lyrical and romantic manner, with the hope that such pieces will help them to understand and perform those gems of the Romantic period even better! You will discover that each piece in this collection has it's own unique pedagogical challenges, and that they present some of the exact same demands, at the late elementary level, as well-known Romantic masterpieces. Enjoy!

Dennis Alexander

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This collection is dedicated to my friend and colleague Stephen Sharp.

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About
MR. A. PRESENTS

A few years ago, some of my piano students at the University of Montana decided that it would be much easier to refer to me as "Mr. A." Needless to say, I agreed that "Mr. A." would be less work, both in pronunciation and written form. Consequently, when coming up with a title for this new series of books, I decided that "Mr. A. Presents" would be the perfect way to introduce this new identity to all of you.

FALLING LEAVES

Dennis Alexander

Gently (♩ = 120)

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 'Gently' with a quarter note equal to 120 beats per minute. The first system consists of three measures. The right hand (treble clef) features a melodic line with fingerings 3, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2. The left hand (bass clef) provides a simple accompaniment with fingerings 1 5 and 1 5. The dynamic marking *mf* is present in the first measure.

Musical notation for measures 4-6. Measure 4 begins with a boxed number '4'. The right hand has a melodic line with a fingered 5 in the first measure. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 5 2 and 1 4. The dynamic marking *mf* is present in the first measure.

Musical notation for measures 7-10. Measure 7 begins with a boxed number '7'. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 1, 3, 2, 3, 2. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 1 2. The dynamic marking *mf* is present in the first measure.

Musical notation for measures 11-14. Measure 11 begins with a boxed number '11'. The right hand has a melodic line with a fingered 5 in the first measure. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 1 5 and 1 5. The dynamic marking *mp* is present in the first measure.

ARIANA

Dennis Alexander

Molto espressione (♩ = 112)

Musical score for measures 1-5. The piece is in 3/4 time. The right hand starts with a series of chords, marked with fingering 5, 2, 1 and 5, 2, 1. The left hand plays a simple accompaniment of quarter notes. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. A *simile* marking is present under the left hand.

Musical score for measures 6-10. The right hand features a long melodic line with a slur and a fermata, marked with fingering 2 and 5. The left hand continues with its accompaniment.

Musical score for measures 11-15. The right hand continues the melodic line with a slur and a fermata, marked with fingering 3. The left hand accompaniment includes a triplet of eighth notes in measure 13.

Musical score for measures 16-20. The right hand continues the melodic line with a slur and a fermata, marked with fingering 5. The left hand accompaniment includes a triplet of eighth notes in measure 17. The piece ends with a final treble clef in measure 20.