Memories of places and times

6 expressive piano solos
for late intermediate to
early advanced pianists

Domenic Cicchetti

Memories of Places and Times is a set of six late-intermediate to early-advanced pieces, based on memorable places and times in the composer's life. The music in this collection demands careful attention to interpretation and musical expression. Each piece provides an opportunity to perform lyrical melodies, bolstered by an interesting harmonic structure. Also included are Performance Notes that describe the inspiration for each work, the structure of the piece, or suggested approaches to a successful performance of the music. Mr. Cicchetti's years of performing and traveling have inspired these delightful new musical vignettes. Play and enjoy!

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I would like to thank all of my friends at Technics Musical Instruments, with special thanks to Dan Slick and Lynda Smith, for their support of this project to develop supplemental material for Technics Music Academy.

Also, my thanks to the Manus family for their warmth and hospitality, as well as E. L. Lancaster, Victoria McArthur, and all the staff members at Alfred Publishing Company who made this project such a joy to complete.

–Domenic Cicchetti

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ISBN 0-7390-2429-9

Photos courtesy of Corel, PhotoDisc

Performance Notes

Winter Solstice 4

Winter Solstice is a quiet but joyful piece that uses the notes of an E major scale to establish its tonality. The opening melody draws on the simple melodic device of a five-note motif, and shifts this motif within the key area of E major. Another element of this RH melody is the use of the interval leaps (6th, 5th, then 4th), found in the first three measures. Be certain to give the whole notes and half note in measures 4 and 8 their full value. In measures 25 through 28, the shifting harmonies move the tonality to the relative minor key of C♯ minor, before returning to E major.

Maui 6

Kaanapali is a beautiful beach in Maui where this piece was originally composed. Conceived as a vocal piece, it has a melody line that should be played with a very relaxed and legato feel. Imagine this melody sung by a voice or even played on the oboe, and you will have the right idea for expressing the mood of this piece. In measure 2, we hear the interval of the raised fourth with the use of the A natural in the key of E♭ major. This interval is again used in the bridge section (in G♭ major) that begins at measure 18. The third section of this piece begins at measure 52, and should be played with a jazz-waltz feel. The end of the piece relaxes into a serene conclusion as the piece unwinds toward the final E♭ chord.

Aberdeen 10

Located on the northeastern shore of Scotland, this ancient city was the inspiration for this lilting $\frac{6}{8}$ theme. The harmony in this piece features a diatonic chord sequence, a device found in the chordal structure of many compositions. *Pachelbel Canon* is perhaps the most famous piece of music that uses this device in its harmony. As an exercise, try transposing the LH part of *Aberdeen* to several different keys, starting with the easier keys such as C, F and G. Once you are proficient at playing this LH part in other keys, improvising in the RH will come easily if the feeling of the original melody is kept in mind. At measure 19, the B section brings us to the new key of F major, with the harmony again remaining diatonic in the new key. Expressive dynamics play an important role in this section, with crescendi appearing several times in the RH melody.