

Famous & Fun Classics

11 Appealing Piano Arrangements

Carol Matz

Famous & Fun Classics, Book 5, is a wonderful introduction to the timeless masterworks of the great composers. The collection includes arrangements of themes from symphonic, operatic and keyboard literature, carefully selected for their appeal to students. These intermediate arrangements can be used as a supplement to any method. Book 5 introduces sixteenth notes, and features arrangements in key signatures with up to two sharps or one flat. At the end of the book, you will find pages "About the Composers," which contain interesting biographical information in language that is easy to understand. Enjoy your experience with these musical masterpieces.

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The Swan

(from *The Carnival of the Animals*)

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)
Arr. by Carol Matz

Moderately slow

p legato

mp

ped. simile

1 5 2 LH over 1

5 1 5 1 5

2 1 2 1 3

1 2 1 5

Habañera

(from the opera *Carmen*)

Georges Bizet (1838–1875)

Arr. by Carol Matz

Moderately

The musical score for "Habañera" is presented in four systems, each containing a grand staff (treble and bass clef) in 4/4 time. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) for the first two systems and changes to two sharps (D major) for the last two systems. The tempo is marked "Moderately".

System 1 (Measures 1-4): The right hand begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated: 5, 4, 4, 1, 2, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, 3. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with chords and single notes.

System 2 (Measures 5-8): The right hand continues with fingerings 2, 1, 5, 4, 2, 1, 5, 2. The left hand accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

System 3 (Measures 9-12): The key signature changes to two sharps (D major). The right hand has fingerings 5, 4, 4, 1, 2, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, 3. The left hand accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

System 4 (Measures 13-16): The right hand has fingerings 2, 1, 5, 4, 2, 1, 5. The left hand accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano).

Hornpipe

(from *Water Music Suite*)

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)
Arr. by Carol Matz

Moderately

System 1: Treble and Bass staves. Treble clef, 3/4 time. Bass clef, 3/4 time. Dynamics: *f*. Fingerings: 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 5, 2, 1, 1.

System 2: Treble and Bass staves. Treble clef, 3/4 time. Bass clef, 3/4 time. Dynamics: *mp*. Fingerings: 5, 2, 1, 1, 2, 5, 1, 4, 2.

System 3: Treble and Bass staves. Treble clef, 3/4 time. Bass clef, 3/4 time. Dynamics: *f*. Fingerings: 4, 1, 5, 1, 4, 1, 4, 3, 1.

System 4: Treble and Bass staves. Treble clef, 3/4 time. Bass clef, 3/4 time. Dynamics: *mf*. Fingerings: 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 5, 3, 1.

About the Composers

Johann Sebastian Bach

Born March 21, 1685; died July 28, 1750

Nationality: German

Bach was a great organist and church musician who composed all kinds of pieces for church services, keyboard instruments, orchestras and more. Besides his music, Bach is famous for having had 20 children! Four of his children grew up to become famous composers.

Georges Bizet

Born October 25, 1838; died June 3, 1875

Nationality: French

Both of Bizet's parents were musicians. His father gave Georges his first music lessons at the age of four. Bizet became an accomplished pianist, and went on to study composition. In his lifetime, he wrote over 150 piano pieces, a symphony, operas and other works. His masterpiece, the opera *Carmen*, is performed throughout the world.

Claude Debussy

Born August 22, 1862; died March 25, 1918

Nationality: French

When Debussy was a boy, his father owned a china shop and his mother was a seamstress. Since they did not have much money, Debussy's godparents paid for his piano lessons. He eventually attended the Paris Conservatory, but failed his piano tests and decided to compose, for which he won many prizes. Debussy became famous for many of his orchestral works and piano pieces.

Charles Gounod

Born June 17, 1818; died October 18, 1893

Nationality: French

Gounod's mother was his first piano teacher. He began composing at the age of 12, and studied at the Paris Conservatory. He also lived in both Italy and England where he studied music, conducted and composed operas. Gounod's *Funeral March of a Marionette* was used as the theme music for the television show *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, which featured horror and suspense stories.