

Jazz, RAGS & Blues

10 original pieces for the
late elementary to early intermediate pianist

MARTHA MIER

FOREWORD

Jazz is an important and distinctive American contribution to 20th-century music. *Jazz, Rags and Blues, Book One*, contains ten original solos that reflect the various styles of the jazz idiom. From the mournful blues sound in “Don’t Wanna’ Leave You Blues,” to the driving, syncopated rhythm in “A Neat Beat,” students will love the challenge of playing in the jazz style.

Jazz is fun to play! Students will be inspired and motivated by the syncopated rhythms and the colorful, rich harmonies of jazz—a style which has captured the imagination of performer and listener alike!

CONTENTS

Don’t Wanna’ Leave You Blues.	4
Downright Happy Rag.	18
Hallelujah!.	8
Just Struttin’ Along	2
Neat Beat, A.	21
Ol’ Rockin’ Chair Blues	10
Ragtime Do-si-do	6
Seventh Street Blues	14
Sneaky Business.	16
Surfboard Boogie	12

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A General MIDI disk is available (14423), which includes a full piano recording and background accompaniment.



A CD is available (18115), which includes all the pieces from Books 1-3, performed by Kim O'Reilly.

Ol' Rockin' Chair Blues

Unhurried, slow blues swing (♩ = ♩³ ♩)
(♩ = 80)

Martha Mier

1 5 3

mp

4 5 3 4 2 3 1 2 1 1

7 5 1 2 1 5

10 3

mf

Surfboard Boogie

Lively, with energy (♩ = ♪ = ♩³)

Martha Mier

5
1
f (♩ = 160)

Detailed description: This system contains the first three measures of the piece. The right hand plays a piano introduction with sustained chords. The left hand begins with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Fingerings are indicated as 5, 4, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 2, 4, 5. A dynamic marking 'f' is present. A tempo marking '(♩ = 160)' is also included.

4

Detailed description: This system contains measures 4 through 6. The left hand continues with eighth notes, and the right hand has chords. Measure 4 includes a measure rest in the right hand. Measure 5 shows a change in the right hand's chord structure.


7

Detailed description: This system contains measures 7 through 9. The key signature changes to one flat (F major). The right hand features sustained chords with some movement. The left hand continues its eighth-note pattern. Measure 9 ends with a descending fingering sequence: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

10

Detailed description: This system contains the final three measures of the piece. The right hand has chords and some eighth-note motion. The left hand continues with eighth notes and ends with a sustained chord. Fingering 1, 2 is shown for the first two notes of measure 10.

DOWNRIGHT HAPPY RAG

Bright and bouncy (Play  evenly)

Martha Mier

Musical notation for measures 1-3. The piece is in 4/4 time. The first system shows measures 1, 2, and 3. The treble clef staff contains a melody with eighth notes and quarter notes, featuring slurs and fingerings (1, 2, 3). The bass clef staff contains a bass line with chords and single notes, including fingerings (5, 1, 3) and (5, 1, 3). The dynamic marking *mf* is present.

Musical notation for measures 4-6. Measure 4 is marked with a boxed '4'. The treble clef staff continues the melody with slurs and fingerings (1, 4, 1). The bass clef staff continues the bass line with chords and single notes, including fingerings (2, 1, 2, 4) and (5, 1, 2).

Musical notation for measures 7-9. Measure 7 is marked with a boxed '7'. The treble clef staff continues the melody with slurs and fingerings (3). The bass clef staff continues the bass line with chords and single notes, including fingerings (5, 1, 3, 4, 1, 1, 3, 5) and (5, 2, 1, 3, 5). The dynamic marking *f* is present.

Musical notation for measures 10-12. Measure 10 is marked with a boxed '10'. The treble clef staff continues the melody with slurs and fingerings (1). The bass clef staff continues the bass line with chords and single notes, including fingerings (1, 3, 5).