

A Perfect 10

10 Piano Solos in 10 Styles

Melody Bober

What could be more exhilarating than receiving the score of a perfect “10”? Olympic athletes, as well as competitors in sports, dance, and music, strive for those high marks. In fact, we all work to achieve perfection in the activities we enjoy. Wouldn’t it be wonderful to find a resource that offers pianists a chance to shine at any level—solos in all styles and from all periods of music history that promote technical skills and offer the dream to succeed in performance?

Introducing *A Perfect 10*, Book 4, a collection of solos designed to promote musical excellence for the intermediate pianist. I chose a favorite teaching piece from the four stylistic periods—Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary. I then wrote six original pieces in jazz, blues, ragtime, Latin, ballad, and showstopper styles. These 10 solos provide students with technical challenges as well as expressive opportunities for musical growth in mood, rhythm, melody, harmony, form, articulation, and dynamics.

You do not have to be an Olympic hopeful to achieve a perfect “10,” but you might feel like one as you practice and perform these selections!

Best wishes for successful music making,

Melody Bober



CONTENTS

Energetic Etude	12
Jammin’ on Bass.....	20
Latin Holiday.....	16
Minuet in G Major (Bach)	26
Shades of Blue	4
Sonatina in A Minor (Benda)	28
Spinning Song (Ellmenreich)	23
Stadium Rag	2
Stargazer	8
Teasing Song (Bartók)	30

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ISBN-10: 1-4706-1025-6
ISBN-13: 978-1-4706-1025-8



Stadium Rag

Ragtime

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Lively ($\text{♩} = 120$)

Sheet music for piano, 4/4 time, key signature of one sharp. Treble and bass staves. Dynamics: *mp*, *f*. Fingerings: 5, 2, 1; 5, 2, 1; 5, 1; 5, 4, 1.

4

Sheet music for piano, 4/4 time, key signature of one sharp. Treble and bass staves. Dynamics: *mf*. Fingerings: 2; 1, 2; 5, 1; 5, 1; 2.

8

Sheet music for piano, 4/4 time, key signature of one sharp. Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 1; 2, 1, 2, 3, 1, 3, 4; 5, 1, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, 2.

12

Sheet music for piano, 4/4 time, key signature of one sharp. Treble and bass staves. Dynamics: *mp*, *sub. f*, *mp*. Fingerings: 5; 2, 1; 1, 2, 4, 5, 3; 3; 8.

Shades of Blue

Blues

Lazily ($\text{♩} = 88$)

Musical score for measures 1-3. The key signature is one sharp. The melody is in 3/4 time. The bass line consists of chords: G major (1), C major (1), G major (1), C major (1). The melody uses grace notes and fingerings (1, 3, 5) above the notes. The dynamic is *mp*. Measure 3 ends with a fermata over the bass line.

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Musical score for measure 4. The key signature changes to two sharps. The melody continues with grace notes and fingerings (3, 1, 3, 1, 3, 2). The bass line provides harmonic support with chords: G major (1), C major (1), G major (1), C major (1).

Musical score for measure 7. The key signature changes to three sharps. The melody features grace notes and fingerings (1, 1, 1). The bass line includes a dynamic marking *mf*.

Musical score for measure 10. The key signature changes to four sharps. The melody uses grace notes and fingerings (1, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, 2, 4). The bass line includes a dynamic marking *f*.

Stargazer

Ballad

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Gently ($\text{♩} = 88$)

1

mf

mp

ped. simile

5

1

2

1

4

1

2

3

1

2

9

4

1

4

1

5

2

1

1

mp

13

1

1

4

1

2

mf

Latin Holiday

Latin

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Festive! ($\text{♩} = 120\text{--}126$)

4

7

10

Minuet in G Major

(*Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach*)

Baroque

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Animato

5

9

13