

Museum Masterpieces

8 Piano Solos Inspired by Great Works of Art

Catherine Rollin

As a child, I was very fortunate to have wonderful parents who loved the arts and viewed culture as something essential to life. They frequently took me to concerts, plays, operas, and to visit our city's art museum, the Detroit Institute of Arts. It was there where I first became aware of the power of the visual arts. The greatest journey one can take is the one that my parents fostered in me—the journey into the world of creativity and imagination. It is through the arts that human beings create and reach beyond the ordinary experiences of daily life and the best of human potential is reached.

In *Museum Masterpieces*, I have composed music inspired by paintings that have moved me and taken me on that creative journey. These paintings are shown on pages 13–16. See the first page of each composition for the painting's corresponding page number. I hope that students enjoy these pieces and experience the profound interconnection between these two worlds of the arts.

Warmest wishes,



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for Wendy Rollin

IMPROVISATION

COLLECTION OF THE SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, WASHINGTON D.C.

ARTIST: CHILDE HASSAM (1859–1935)

Catherine Rollin

Moderately and expressively

Musical notation for the first system, measures 1-3. Treble clef, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics include *mp* and *dim.* Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

4

to Coda ⊕

Musical notation for the second system, measures 4-6. Treble clef, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, and *mp*. A simile hairpin is present. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

7

Musical notation for the third system, measures 7-10. Treble clef, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

11

Musical notation for the fourth system, measures 11-14. Treble clef, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

for James and Cleatrice Tatum

DANCERS

COLLECTION OF KRÖLLER-MULLER MUSEUM, NETHERLANDS

ARTIST: THEO VAN DOESBURG (1883-1931)

Upbeat and spirited, with swing (♩ = ♩³)

Catherine Rollin

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Key signature: one flat (B-flat). Dynamics: *mf*. Fingerings: 3, 4, 2, 3. A slur covers measures 1-4. Bass clef has fingerings: 5, 1, 2, 5, 1, 2, 5, 1, 3, 5, 1, 2, 1.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Key signature: one flat (B-flat). Fingerings: 3, 4, 2, 3. A slur covers measures 5-8. Bass clef has fingerings: 5, 1, 2, 5, 3, 2, 5, 1, 1.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Key signature: one flat (B-flat). Dynamics: *f*. Fingerings: 4, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1. A slur covers measures 9-12. Bass clef has fingerings: 5, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1. Measure 12 includes the dynamic marking *dim.*

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Key signature: one flat (B-flat). Dynamics: *mp*. Fingerings: 3, 4, 2, 1, 5, 3, 3, 3. A slur covers measures 13-16. Bass clef has fingerings: 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 1.

for Summer Krinsky

SUMMER

COLLECTION OF SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARTIST: THOMAS DEWING (1851–1938)

Catherine Rollin

Gently flowing forward

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, featuring a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of four systems of music, each with a numbered measure marker in a box at the beginning of the first staff.

- System 1:** Starts with a measure marker '4'. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *mp*. Fingerings are indicated as 5 3 2 and 5 3.
- System 2:** Starts with a measure marker '3'. The right hand continues the melodic line. Dynamics include *mp*. Fingerings are indicated as 5 and 5.
- System 3:** Starts with a measure marker '5'. The right hand continues the melodic line. Dynamics include *mp*. The system ends with the instruction *to Coda* and a Coda symbol.
- System 4:** Starts with a measure marker '7'. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *cresc.*, *mf*, and *poco rit.*. Fingerings are indicated as 5 2 1 3, 5 2 1 2, 4 3, and 4 3.

for Betsy and Gerry Lilly

THE KISS

COLLECTION OF ÖSTERREICHISCHE GALERIE BELVEDERE, VIENNA

ARTIST: GUSTAV KLIMT (1862–1918)

Catherine Rollin

Moderately

RH 2

LH *p* $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{5}{5}$ shimmering

Both hands 8va - - - - -

mp rit. e dim.

3

p $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{5}{5}$

a tempo

mf

molto cantabile

7

4 2 1, 3 2 1, 5 2 1, 5 3 1, 5 3 2, 3 2 1

2 1 2 1, 5, 2 1 2 1

10

5 3 2, 4 2 1, 5 4 2, 4 2 1, 5 3 1, 5, 3 2, 5 2 1

f *dim.* *poco rit.*

2 1 2 1, 5, 5 2 1 2 1