

CHARACTER PIECES

in Romantic Style

12 Short Piano Solos

MARTHA MIER

Character pieces are short piano works that most often communicate a single emotion or idea, such as the joy of spring or the image of a child falling asleep. Composers first began writing character pieces in the 19th century, during the Romantic period, as a personal, inward-looking form of musical expression, on a smaller scale than the lengthy and highly structured sonatas of the Classical period. Many of the Romantic-period composers created character pieces. Important collections include the *Scenes from Childhood*, Op. 15, by Robert Schumann and the *Songs Without Words* by Felix Mendelssohn. My goal in writing *Character Pieces in Romantic Style* was to create new character pieces carefully graded for students that emulate this important art form from the Romantic period. Some of the pieces are bold in character, while others are lyrical and introspective. These moods are suggested by each title. I hope students enjoy exploring these pieces and use them to develop musical, imaginative playing.

Martha Mier

<i>The Balance Beam</i>	14	<i>The Organ Grinder</i>	20
<i>The Challenge</i>	16	<i>Reflection</i>	8
<i>Gentle Ocean Waves</i>	12	<i>Sea Treasures</i>	6
<i>Gospel Sing</i>	22	<i>The Secret</i>	2
<i>A Moment in Time</i>	4	<i>Song of the Matador</i>	18
<i>My Heart Sings</i>	10	<i>Wind Chimes</i>	5



Alfred Music
P.O. Box 10003
Van Nuys, CA 91410-0003
alfred.com

Copyright © 2018 by Alfred Music
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

No part of this book shall be reproduced, arranged, adapted, recorded, publicly performed, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means without written permission from the publisher. In order to comply with copyright laws, please apply for such written permission and/or license by contacting the publisher at alfred.com/permissions.

ISBN-10: 1-4706-4143-7
ISBN-13: 978-1-4706-4143-6

THE SECRET

Martha Mier

Moderately (♩ = 104)

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measure 1: Treble clef has a half note G4 with a slur and finger number 3. Bass clef has a half note G3 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 2: Treble clef has a half note A4 with a slur and finger number 5. Bass clef has a half note A3 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 3: Treble clef has a half note B4 with a slur and finger number 2. Bass clef has a half note B3 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 4: Treble clef has a half note C5 with a slur and finger number 2. Bass clef has a half note C4 with a slur and finger number 5. Dynamics: *mf*.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measure 5: Treble clef has a half note D5 with a slur and finger number 4. Bass clef has a half note D4 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 6: Treble clef has a half note E5 with a slur and finger number 2. Bass clef has a half note E4 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 7: Treble clef has a half note F5 with a slur and finger number 1. Bass clef has a half note F4 with a slur and finger number 2. Measure 8: Treble clef has a half note G5 with a slur and finger number 3. Bass clef has a half note G4 with a slur and finger number 5. Dynamics: *mp* in measure 7, *mf* in measure 8.

Musical notation for measures 9-14. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measure 9: Treble clef has a half note A5 with a slur and finger number 5. Bass clef has a half note A4 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 10: Treble clef has a half note B5 with a slur and finger number 2. Bass clef has a half note B4 with a slur and finger number 2. Measure 11: Treble clef has a half note C6 with a slur and finger number 1. Bass clef has a half note C5 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 12: Treble clef has a half note D6 with a slur and finger number 1. Bass clef has a half note D5 with a slur and finger number 2. Measure 13: Treble clef has a half note E6 with a slur and finger number 5. Bass clef has a half note E5 with a slur and finger number 2. Measure 14: Treble clef has a half note F6 with a slur and finger number 3. Bass clef has a half note F5 with a slur and finger number 2. Dynamics: *f* in measure 11.

Musical notation for measures 15-18. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Measure 15: Treble clef has a half note G6 with a slur and finger number 5. Bass clef has a half note G5 with a slur and finger number 5. Measure 16: Treble clef has a half note A6 with a slur and finger number 1. Bass clef has a half note A5 with a slur and finger number 2. Measure 17: Treble clef has a half note B6 with a slur and finger number 4. Bass clef has a half note B5 with a slur and finger number 2. Measure 18: Treble clef has a half note C7 with a slur and finger number 1. Bass clef has a half note C6 with a slur and finger number 1. Dynamics: *mp* in measure 17. Fingering for bass clef in measure 18: 1 3 5 over 1 2 5.

SEA TREASURES

Martha Mier

Calmly (♩ = 104)

First system of the musical score. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Calmly' with a quarter note equal to 104 beats per minute. The dynamic is *mf*. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a slur over the first four measures and a fermata over the fifth measure. The bass staff contains a bass line with a slur over the first four measures and a fermata over the fifth measure. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5. A *ped. simile* marking is present at the end of the system.

Second system of the musical score, starting at measure 5. It continues the melodic and bass lines from the first system. The treble staff has a slur over measures 5-8 and a fermata over measure 9. The bass staff has a slur over measures 5-8 and a fermata over measure 9. Measure 10 contains a triplet in the treble staff. Measure 11 contains a triplet in the bass staff.

Third system of the musical score, starting at measure 9. The treble staff has a slur over measures 9-12 and a fermata over measure 13. The bass staff has a slur over measures 9-12 and a fermata over measure 13. Measure 14 contains a triplet in the treble staff. Measure 15 contains a triplet in the bass staff.

Fourth system of the musical score, starting at measure 13. The treble staff has a slur over measures 13-16 and a fermata over measure 17. The bass staff has a slur over measures 13-16 and a fermata over measure 17. Measure 18 contains a triplet in the treble staff. Measure 19 contains a triplet in the bass staff.