

Life in 12 Keys

**A Celebration
of Life's Moods
& Moments**
for Solo Piano

Brian Chung

As I composed *Life in 12 Keys*, you were continually in my thoughts. I envisioned us embarking on a shared musical journey—one filled with captivating stops along the way. At each turn, I hoped you would encounter something stirring—a memory, a feeling, a forethought, an aspiration—each one paired with emotions ranging from laidback to anxious, thoughtful to thankful, excited to inspired. By journey's end, my wish was for you to have experienced a vibrant mosaic of life moments brought to life in the visceral and expressive language that only music can speak. And because I wanted the journey to be both challenging and fun, I chose an ambitious road map—the Circle of Fifths—to ensure a colorful adventure that would explore every key destination on our path. It's all ready for you to enjoy.

I wish you an amazing journey!



| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Friendship | 2 |
| Sunrise | 6 |
| Determination | 8 |
| Chillin' | 12 |
| Frenetic | 17 |
| Contemplation | 20 |
| Dreaming | 24 |
| Tenderness | 28 |
| Wistful | 32 |
| Breaking Point | 36 |
| Morning Glory | 40 |
| Flying | 44 |

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Friendship

Brian Chung

Playfully (♩ = 208)

Measures 1-4 of the piece. The music is in 4/4 time. The right hand (treble clef) features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, accented with a '1' above the first note of each measure. The left hand (bass clef) provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, accented with a '5' below the first note of each measure. The dynamic marking *mf* is present in the first measure.

Measures 5-8 of the piece. Measures 5-7 continue the melodic and rhythmic patterns from the previous system. Measure 8 features a whole note chord in the right hand and a whole note chord in the left hand, both marked with a '1' above and below the notes respectively. A fermata is placed over the whole notes in both hands.

Measures 9-12 of the piece. The right hand continues with a melodic line, accented with a '1' above the first note of each measure. The left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, accented with a '5' below the first note of each measure. The dynamic marking *mp* is present in the first measure.

Measures 13-16 of the piece. The right hand continues with a melodic line, accented with a '1' above the first note of each measure. The left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, accented with a '5' below the first note of each measure.

Chillin'

Swing (♩ = 138)

4 2 1 5 3 1

mp

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

mf

9

13 3 2 1 5 4 2 1 3 2 1

f

Wistful

Brian Chung

With longing (♩ = 152–160)

Measures 1–5 of the piece. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'With longing (♩ = 152–160)'. The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The right hand plays a series of chords, each preceded by a fermata. The left hand plays a bass line. Fingering numbers are indicated above the notes: 3 1, 4 2, 5 3, 4 2. A slur with the word *simile* is placed under the first two measures of the bass line.

Measures 6–10. Measure 6 is marked with a box containing the number 6. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 7–10. Fingering numbers 1, 2, 3 are shown. The left hand continues the bass line. Fingering numbers 5, 1 3, 1 2 are shown.

Measures 11–15. Measure 11 is marked with a box containing the number 11. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 11–15. Fingering numbers 4, 3, 2, 1, 1, 5, 4, 5 are shown. The left hand continues the bass line. Dynamics *mf* and *p* are indicated. An *8va* marking is present above the right hand in measure 12.

Measures 16–20. Measure 16 is marked with a box containing the number 16. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 16–20. Fingering numbers 1, 2, 3, 2 are shown. The left hand continues the bass line. Dynamics *mp* and *mf* are indicated. An *8va* marking is present above the right hand in measure 16.