

5 Short Piano Pieces

Albumleaf

Waltz

Dance of the Jester

Hymn

The Bells of Night

Composer

Jesper Hansen

5 Short Piano Pieces

Notes from the composer

This collection of pieces is composed with the young, curious pianist in mind.

Each piece tells its own story, and has its own character.

Albumleaf

The first piece is also the shortest and easiest to play.

'Albumleaf' is to be played with very little pedal, and the challenge here is to tell the sweet, soft story while giving every single note just the right amount of space

Waltz

The second piece is entitled *'Waltz'* and is just that. As it is not a long piece of music it is important to get the arc of the piece right, and balance the sections throughout

Dance of the Jester

This piece is probably the most difficult one in this set.

It's a fun, taunting piece, and you really can't do anything wrong!

As long as you play the notes, you're doing it right! See where the piece takes you and have fun with it.

Hymn

Imagine a child waking up on Christmas day. The day seems to go on forever, and the joy of the evening is both so close yet so far away!

The sense of wonder and longing must be conveyed here, with the climax finally telling us that the wait is over.

The Bells of Night

The final piece is also the longest and most complex.

Imagine a person walking, surrounded by the darkness of night.

The only source of light is a lighthouse in the distance, and the only sound is that of a church bell being rung again and again.

The person knows there is nothing to be afraid of, but still does not feel at ease

To be played with 'finger-pedal'

No.1: Albumleaf

Jesper Hansen

♩ = 63 (andante non troppo)

Piano

p

10

3

No.2: Waltz

Jesper Hansen

♩ = 120 (In waltz time)

p

9

mf

16

23

pp

poco cresc.

No. 3: Dance of the Jester

Jesper Hansen

Play the notes. Everything else is up to you. Have fun with it!

♩ = 160 - 180 (Allegretto Vivace)

Measures 1-8 of the piece. The music is in 2/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. A mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking is present in the first measure.

Measures 9-15. Measure 9 is marked with a 9. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) at measure 11. Dynamics include piano (*p*) at measure 11 and mezzo-forte (*mf*) at measure 13.

Measures 16-23. The key signature remains two flats. The right hand continues with a melodic line, and the left hand has a more active role with eighth notes and rests.

Measures 24-29. Measure 24 is marked with a 24. The key signature changes to three flats (B-flat, E-flat, and A-flat) at measure 25. Dynamics include fortissimo (*ff*) at measure 25 and mezzo-forte (*mf*) at measure 27.

Measures 30-36. Measure 30 is marked with a 30. The key signature remains three flats. The piece concludes with a double bar line at measure 36.

37

p *mf*

45

rit.

(b)

51

a tempo

mf

59

pp

66

mf

74

mf

79

non-rit...

non-rit...

8^{vb} . . .

No. 4 - Hymn

To be played with a sense of childish wonder and amazement

Jesper Hansen

$\text{♩} = 52$

p *mf* *mp* *p* *f* *rit.* *a tempo* *mf* *p*

No. 5 - The bells of night

Play with rubato, focus on harmonies.
Very quiet throughout

Jesper Hansen

♩ = 87

p

Ped.

** Ped.*

** sim pedal*

5

9

13

17

mp

* The octaves in the right hand are, throughout the piece, to be played in a manner that gives the impression of church bells. These octaves must be distinct from the rest of the bar, and must not be rushed.

21

p

This system contains measures 21 through 24. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature. The music consists of eighth-note patterns in both hands, often beamed together. Measure 23 features a key signature change to one flat (B-flat only), indicated by a (b) in a circle above the treble staff. The dynamic marking *p* (piano) is placed below the first measure.

25

This system contains measures 25 through 28. The musical notation continues with eighth-note patterns in both hands. The key signature remains one flat (B-flat only).

29

>

This system contains measures 29 through 32. The musical notation continues with eighth-note patterns. Measures 31 and 32 feature accents (>) over the eighth notes in the bass staff. The key signature remains one flat (B-flat only).

33

>

This system contains measures 33 through 36. The musical notation continues with eighth-note patterns. Measures 33 and 34 feature accents (>) over the eighth notes in the bass staff. The key signature remains one flat (B-flat only).

37

This system contains measures 37 through 40. The musical notation continues with eighth-note patterns. The key signature remains one flat (B-flat only).

41

f

This system contains measures 41 through 44. The musical notation continues with eighth-note patterns. Measure 43 features a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. The key signature remains one flat (B-flat only).

45 **

53 *accel...*

59 *a tempo*

62

pp

8va

8vb

Ped.

Distant

pp

Ped.

** The deep chords from bar 47 - 54 are to be played very solemnly. Give the impression of deep church bells at the stroke of Midnight