

PERFORMANCE NOTES

BY ERIC BAUMGARTNER

THE CUCKOO

Bird calls have fascinated musicians for ages. There are many examples of birdsong in composition, from the simple (Beethoven's 6th Symphony) to the complex (Messiaen's *Oiseaux Exotiques*). "The Cuckoo" employs some simple calls in the A section and coda. Although marked *Moderato*, I encourage the performer to experiment with faster tempi to evoke a more animated bird!

SCHERZANDO

The challenge in this piece is to keep it light and playful at a fast tempo. It requires a nimble touch with dynamics that never rise above mezzo forte. Work for consistent and smooth 16th notes. Control of these 16th-note phrases is key to performing at a lightning-fast tempo.

NEW ORLEANS NOCTURNE

I've always loved compositions that make temporary tonal shifts to different keys only to cleverly return to the tonic (Jerome Kern and Elton John were particularly good at this practice). In "New Orleans Nocturne" I made a conscious decision to explore shifting tonalities in the A section while trying to retain a cohesive structure and melody. The accidentals sprinkled throughout are the easiest way to identify these tonal shifts.

GOBLIN DANCE

"Goblin Dance" is inspired by some of the more playful pieces by Edvard Grieg (particularly "Puck" and "Elfin Dance") as well as by the progressive rock band Gentle Giant. Pay close attention to the varied articulation and dynamics to help bring out the mischief!

Scherzando

Eric Baumgartner

Presto
mp
leggero

The musical score is for a piece titled "Scherzando" by Eric Baumgartner, page 8. It is in 4/4 time and marked "Presto". The first system (measures 1-3) features a treble clef with a five-measure rest in the first measure, followed by eighth-note patterns. The bass clef has a quarter note, an eighth note, and a quarter note. The second system (measures 4-6) continues the eighth-note patterns in the treble and the eighth-note patterns in the bass. The third system (measures 7-9) shows a change in the treble clef pattern, with a "mp" dynamic marking. The fourth system (measures 10-12) features a treble clef with a five-measure rest in the first measure, followed by eighth-note patterns. The bass clef has a quarter note, an eighth note, and a quarter note.

4

7

10

New Orleans Nocturne

Eric Baumgartner

Elegantly

p

With pedal

rit.

5

mp a tempo

9

13

mp

L.H.

Jackrabbit Ramble

for my cousin Beverly Coates

21

With reckless abandon (♩ = $\frac{3}{4}$)

Eric Baumgartner

Measures 1-3 of the piece. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is written for piano. Measure 1 starts with a piano (p) dynamic. The right hand (R.H.) has a triplet of eighth notes (F#, A, C#) beamed together, followed by a quarter note (D). The left hand (L.H.) has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 2 has a triplet of eighth notes (F#, A, C#) beamed together, followed by a quarter note (D). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 3 has a triplet of eighth notes (F#, A, C#) beamed together, followed by a quarter note (D). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A).

Measures 4-6 of the piece. Measure 4 starts with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The right hand has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 5 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 6 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A).

Measures 7-9 of the piece. Measure 7 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 8 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 9 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A).

Measures 10-12 of the piece. Measure 10 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 11 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A). Measure 12 has a quarter note (F#), an eighth note (A), and a quarter note (C#). The left hand has a quarter note (F#) and a half note (A).

Beale Street Boogie

Eric Baumgartner

As fast as possible! (♩ = $\overset{\text{3}}{\text{♩}}$)

f

L.H. legato

3

6

9