

BIRDS

A Suite of Eight Impressionistic Studies

Seymour Bernstein

1. The Purple Finch

Tenderly (♩ = 54)

The musical score for "The Purple Finch" is written for piano in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of four systems of music. The first system begins with a piano (*pp*) dynamic and features a melody in the right hand with eighth-note patterns and a bass line with triplets. The second system includes dynamics of *p*, *mp*, and *pp*, with a section marked *L.H.* (Left Hand) and *(sim.)* (simulazione). The third system continues with *mp* and *pp* dynamics. The fourth system concludes with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking and a final melodic flourish in the right hand. The score is characterized by its impressionistic style, using delicate textures and specific dynamics to evoke the sound of a bird.

2. The Hummingbird

Fast and shimmering ($\text{♩} = 100$)

(sempre sim.)

mp

(sempre sim.)

cresc.

dim.

The musical score for 'The Hummingbird' is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of six systems of music. The first system includes a tempo marking 'Fast and shimmering (♩ = 100)' and a performance instruction '(sempre sim.)'. The score features rapid sixteenth-note passages in the right hand, often in triplets, and sustained chords or single notes in the left hand. Dynamics include mezzo-piano (mp), crescendo (cresc.), and decrescendo (dim.). The piece concludes with a final melodic flourish in the right hand and a sustained note in the left hand.



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7. The Penguin

Waddling ($\text{♩} = 108$)

p sempre stacc. e rubato

mf cant.
(sim.)

poco a

poco rit. ----- a tempo

rit.

poco dim.

p

mp

a tempo

mf
(sempre stacc.)

poco dim.

p
molto r



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