

CONTENTS

AMY MARCY BEACH

- 6 Secrets from *Children's Carnival*, Op. 25, No. 5
- 8 Gavotte in D minor from *Children's Album*, Op. 36, No. 2
- 10 Waltz in C Major from *Children's Album*, Op. 36, No. 3
- 12 Sliding on the Ice from *From Six to Twelve*, Op. 119, No. 1
- 16 Canoeing from *From Six to Twelve*, Op. 119, No. 3

TERESA CARREÑO

- 18 Le sommeil de l'enfant (Berceuse), Op. 35

CÉCILE CHAMINADE

- 22 Gavotte in A minor from *Album d'enfants*, Op. 123, No. 5
- 24 Gigue in C Major from *Album d'enfants*, Op. 123, No. 6
- 26 Rigaudon in A minor from *Album d'enfants*, Op. 126, No. 3

LOUISE DUMONT FARRENC

- 28 Etude in C Major from *Vingt cinq études faciles*, Op. 50, No. 1
- 30 Etude in A minor from *Vingt cinq études faciles*, Op. 50, No. 2
- 32 Impromptu in B minor

FANNY MENDELSSOHN HENSEL

- 34 Andante con espressione
- 38 Fugue in E-flat Major

MARGARET RUTHVEN LANG

- 44 Starlight
- 50 Twilight

CLARA GOTTSCHALK PETERSON

- 54 Staccato Polka

CLARA SCHUMANN

- 58 Polonaise in C Major from *Quatre Polonaises*, Op. 1, No. 2
- 60 Scherzo in G Major

ABOUT THE COMPOSERS

AMY MARCY BEACH (1867–1944)

Born September 5, 1867, Henniker, New Hampshire. Her mother was her first piano teacher and realized that Amy was very sensitive to music and associated each key with a color. She composed her first piano solo when she was just four years old. When Amy was seven she played Beethoven's Sonatas, Op. 49. When she was 16, her vocal solo "A Rainy Day," with poetry by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, was published. That same year, she performed a concerto with the Boston Symphony. Amy married Dr. H. H. A. Beach and composed a vast amount of music during their 25-year marriage. Her works include the *Gaelic Symphony*, the Piano Concerto in C-sharp minor, the opera *Cabildo*, numerous piano solos and over 150 vocal solos. In 1892 she became the first female composer to have a piece performed by the New York Symphony society. Beach died in New York City on December 27, 1944.

TERESA CARREÑO (1853–1917)

Born December 22, 1853, Caracas, Venezuela. Her father taught her piano and composed 500 exercises for her to play in rotation every three days. The family fled Venezuela during the revolution and arrived in New York. Teresa was a child prodigy and gave concerts throughout America. She played at the White House for President Abraham Lincoln. She took lessons from the famous Felix Mendelssohn and Robert Schumann, for whom she composed her first piece at the age of eight. Carreño became a pianist and concert pianist, whose career spanned 55 years. She died in New York City on July 1, 1917. A postage stamp in her honor was issued in Venezuela in 1938.

CÉCILE CHAMINADE (1857–1944)

Born August 8, 1857, Paris. Both her parents were musical. Her father taught her to play the piano, giving her daughter lessons for many years. Her father recognized Cécile's talent after seeing a piece she had composed at the age of eight. She made her first professional concert debuts and soon began performing throughout France. She made a living as a composer. Her most famous piano works include the *Concerto in G major* and *Concerto in D major*. She was also a conductor and pianist. Chaminade died in Meudon, France.

LOUISE DUMONT FARRENC (1804–1875)

Born May 31, 1804, Paris. She was a pianist for over thirty years. Louise was described as *trésor des pianists* described as one of the 51 numbered works. She died on September 15, 1875.



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Gavotte in D minor

from *Children's Album*, Op. 36, No. 2

Amy Marcy Beach
(1867–1944)

Allegro

pp

cresc.

f

19



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Gavotte in A minor

from *Album d'enfants*, Op. 123, No. 5

Cécile Chaminade
(1857–1944)

Allegretto (♩ = 92)

mf

p

f



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Impromptu in B minor

Louise Dumont Farrenc
(1804-1875)

Moderato (♩ = c. 48)

The musical score is presented in a grand staff format (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/8 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Moderato' with a quarter note equal to approximately 48 beats per minute. The score is divided into five systems of four measures each, with measure numbers 1, 5, 9, 14, and 19 indicated at the beginning of their respective systems. The first system (measures 1-4) includes the instruction '[p] dolce' and features a melodic line in the right hand with slurs and fingerings (2, 5, 1) and a bass line with slurs and fingerings (3, 1, 4). The second system (measures 5-8) continues the melodic and bass lines with various fingerings (1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 1). The third system (measures 9-12) includes the instruction '[p] dolce' and features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (2, 2, 3, 1, 4) and a bass line with slurs and fingerings (3, 1, 4). The fourth system (measures 13-15) includes the instruction 'cresc.' and features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (5, 3, 1, 2, 1) and a bass line with slurs and fingerings (3, 1). The fifth system (measures 16-19) continues the melodic and bass lines with slurs and fingerings (1, 2, 1).

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Starlight

Margaret Ruthven Lang
(1867–1972)

Allegretto

p con grazia

con pedale

5

p

10

mp

15

mf



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