

PIANO - ELEMENTARY

# THE PIRATE

by

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for Shayne

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Piano

The first system of music is in 4/4 time and marked *mp*. The right hand begins with a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to A4, B4, C5, and D5, then down to B4, A4, and G4. This line is marked with a '1' and a slur. The left hand has a whole rest in the first measure, followed by a triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) in the second measure, a whole rest in the third measure, and another triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) in the fourth measure. The bass clef is indicated by a brace on the left.

The second system continues the piece. The right hand has a slur over the first two measures, then a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) in the third measure, and a whole note G4 in the fourth measure. The left hand has whole rests in the first three measures and a triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) in the fourth measure. The bass clef is indicated by a brace on the left.

The third system continues the piece. The right hand has a slur over the first two measures, a whole note G4 in the third measure, and a slur over the last two measures. The left hand has whole rests in the first two measures and a triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) in the third and fourth measures. The bass clef is indicated by a brace on the left.

1 1

rit. . . . .

Ped

**A tempo**

1

*f*

1 3 5

1 3 5

1 2 5

1 5

1

5

1

4

1 2 5

1 3 5

r.h. 2

Ped.

# COMPOSER'S NOTES

The Pirate is in the *dorian mode* in this case centered on D. See example (a). This mode is minor in nature and is formed from the second degree of the C major scale, thus no sharps or flats. This scale features a minor tonic chord (i) and a major subdominant chord (IV). It's these two prominent harmonies which lend the scale its "swashbuckling" effect. The two left hand chords - Example (b) - should be practiced using the standard fingering.

There are two figures to be careful of as they are similar but played considerably differently. Example (c) is a five note scale which starts on an accented D and walks up to an A (which ends the figure). The hand pushes away from that last A. In example (d), the scale starting on D walks up to the G, but the following A is the first note of a four note scale going down. Examples (e) and (f) illustrate the same type of discrepancy later in the piece.

Below are the characteristic rhythms used in The Pirate. Please note that example (g) should be tapped out with both hands (watch the stem direction). Also, the lighter characters are "empty" beats. Most rhythm mistakes are made by not observing these. Examples (h) and (i) are both right-hand rhythms (only).

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