

Navigating Nocturnes:

Charting and Exploring Pedagogical Pieces as Tools for Musical Mastery

Dr. Michaela Boros

MTNA National Conference, Reno, NV

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Components of the Nocturne		
Basic Components	Harmonic Components	Physical Components
Metric & Rhythmic Components	Melodic Components	Artistic Components

Level ____: _____			
Composer:	Collection, publisher level:	Publisher, year:	Item #:
Basic Components Key: Meter: Tempo marking: Length, duration: Form:	Harmonic Components	Physical Components	
Metric & Rhythmic Components	Melodic Components	Artistic Components	
Notes:			

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Components of the Nocturne		
Basic Components Mood, extramusical associations Key Meter Tempo marking Length, duration Form	Harmonic Components Range Harmonic progressions Accompaniment patterns Melodic basslines Pedaling	Physical Components Effective body use Freedom of motion Other physical control
Metric & Rhythmic Components Basic note values Cross-rhythms, polyrhythms Syncopation <i>Rubato</i>	Melodic Components Range Phrasing Scalar passages Leaps Chromaticism Ornamentation <i>Fioriture</i>	Artistic Components Dynamics Articulations Expressive text Other musical details

Level ____ : “Spanish Nocturne,” Rollin			
Rollin, Catherine	<i>Sounds of Spain 1</i> , Early Int.	Alfred, 1999	17601
Basic Components - G Minor - 3/4 - “Flowing expressively and legato” - 64 bars, 2:05 - A-A’-B-A’-Coda	Harmonic Components	Physical Components	
Metric & Rhythmic Components	Melodic Components	Artistic Components	
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Level ____ : Nocturne in E Minor, Sallee			
Sallee, Mary	Individual sheet, Int.	FJH, 2012	P2005
Basic Components - E Minor - 6/8 - “Espressivo; cantabile” (quarter note = ca. 40) - 38 bars, 2:15 - Intro-A-B-A-Coda	Harmonic Components	Physical Components	
Metric & Rhythmic Components	Melodic Components	Artistic Components	
Notes:			

Level ____ : Notturmo in Eb Major, Alexander			
Alexander, Dennis	Just for You, Book 4, Int.-Late Int.	Alfred, 2004	22484
Basic Components - E-flat Major - 4/4 - “Andante sostenuto” - 36 bars, 2:50 - A-B-A’	Harmonic Components	Physical Components	
Metric & Rhythmic Components	Melodic Components	Artistic Components	
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Level ____ : <i>Romance sans paroles, Op. 17, No. 3, Fauré</i>		
Fauré, Gabriel	Various, including Bärenreiter, Kalmus, Peters	First published 1863
Basic Components - A-flat Major - 2/4 - "Andante moderato" - 74 bars, 2:45 - Intro-A-B-A'-A''-Coda	Harmonic Components	Physical Components
Metric & Rhythmic Components	Melodic Components	Artistic Components
Notes:		

Resources

- Contact: michaelaboros@gmail.com
- Dissertation: "Pedagogical Solo Piano Nocturnes: A Progressive Leveling With Annotations on Stylistic, Technical, and Musical Challenges and Benefits," <https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/etd/6633/>



- Scan QR code to download dissertation

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Select Suggested Pedagogical Nocturnes and Nocturne-Like Works

Level 3: Late Elementary Piano Nocturnes

- **Rollin, Catherine, "Spanish Nocturne," *Sounds of Spain, Book 1***
- Rollin, Catherine, "Nocturne in Black and Gold – The Falling Rocket," *Museum Masterpieces, Book 2*
- Alexander, Dennis, Nocturne No. 2 in E Minor, *Nocturnes, Book 1*

Level 4: Early Intermediate Nocturnes and Nocturne-Like Works

- Mier, Martha, Prelude in D Major, *Romantic Sketches, Book 2*
- Alexander, Dennis, Nocturne No. 4 in D Minor, *Nocturnes, Book 1*
- Rollin, Catherine, Nocturne, *Spotlight on Romantic Style*

Level 5: Early Intermediate Piano Nocturnes

- Rejino, Mona, Nocturne, *Portraits in Style*
- Rollin, Catherine, "Iberian Nocturne," *Sounds of Spain, Book 3*
- **Sallee, Mary, Nocturne in E Minor**

Level 6: Intermediate Piano Nocturnes and Nocturne-Like Works

- Costello, Jeanne, Nocturne in G Minor, *Nocturnes in Minor*
- Vandall, Robert, "Winter Nocturne," *Celebrated Piano Solos, Book 5*
- Arens, Barbara, "Cogitata nocturna," *Piano Misterioso*

Level 7: Intermediate Piano Nocturnes

- Costello, Jeanne, Nocturne in D Minor, *Nocturnes in Minor*
- Costello, Jeanne, Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, *Nocturnes in Minor*
- **Alexander, Dennis, Notturmo in E-flat Major, *Just for You, Book 4***

Level 8: Late Intermediate Piano Nocturnes and Nocturne-Like Works

- Costello, Nocturne in F Minor, *Nocturnes in Minor*
- **Fauré, Gabriel, Romance sans paroles, Op. 17, No. 3**
- Linn, *Twilight Nocturne*
- Alexander, Nocturne No. 14 in F Minor, *Nocturnes, Book 2*

Level 9: Late Intermediate/Early Advanced Piano Nocturnes

- Chopin, Frederic: Nocturne in G Minor, Op. 37, No. 1
- Alexander, Nocturne No. 13 in G Major, *Nocturnes, Book 2*
- Linn, Jennifer, "Nocturne d'Esprit," *Piano Recital Showcase: Romantic Inspirations*

Level 10: Early Advanced Piano Nocturnes

- Chopin, Nocturne in F Minor, Op. 55, No. 1
- Chopin, Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, Op. Post.
- Chopin, Nocturne in E Minor, Op. 72, No. 1