

A Perfect



10

10 Piano Solos in 10 Styles

Melody Bober

What could be more exhilarating than receiving the score of a perfect “10”? Olympic athletes, as well as competitors in sports, dance, and music, strive for those high marks. In fact, we all work to achieve perfection in the activities we enjoy. Wouldn’t it be wonderful to find a resource that offers pianists a chance to shine at any level—solos in all styles and from all periods of music history that promote technical skills and offer the dream to succeed in performance?

Introducing *A Perfect 10*, Book 1, a collection of solos designed to promote musical excellence for the elementary to late-elementary pianist. I chose a favorite teaching piece from the four stylistic periods—Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary. I then wrote six original pieces in jazz, blues, ragtime, Latin, ballad, and showstopper styles. Many of these pieces have optional duet accompaniments. These 10 solos provide students with technical challenges as well as expressive opportunities for musical growth in mood, rhythm, melody, harmony, form, articulation, and dynamics.

You do not have to be an Olympic hopeful to achieve a perfect “10,” but you might feel like one as you practice and perform these selections!

Best wishes for successful music making,

Melody Bober

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Evening in Spain

Latin

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Boldly (♩ = 152)

2

f

3

5

mp

f

1

3

10

5

mp

Detailed description: This block contains the first three systems of a piano score for 'Evening in Spain'. The music is in 3/4 time and begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The first system (measures 1-4) features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The second system (measures 5-8) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and includes a triplet in the right hand. The third system (measures 9-12) continues the piece with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and includes a five-measure rest in the right hand.

DUET ACCOMPANIMENT: Student plays one octave higher.

Boldly (♩ = 152)

RH

LH

mf

1

5

3 1

4 2 1

p

5

4

2

10

mf

p

Detailed description: This block contains the duet accompaniment for the piano score. It is written for a right hand (RH) and a left hand (LH) in 3/4 time. The right hand part consists of chords and single notes, with fingering numbers (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and a dynamic of mezzo-forte (*mf*) at the beginning. The left hand part features a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and single notes, also starting with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The score includes measure markers (1, 5, 10) and dynamic markings (*p* for piano) to guide the student's performance.

Wishing Well Waltz

Ballad

Melody Bober

Flowing (♩ = 108)

3
1

mp

3

2

6

mf

p

DUET ACCOMPANIMENT: Student plays one octave higher.

Flowing (♩ = 108)

RH

LH

p

1

5

5

6

mp

p

Blue Shoes Boogie

Jazz

Melody Bober

Driving (♩ = 88)

4/4 time signature, key signature of one sharp (F#). The score is divided into three systems of four measures each.

- System 1:** Starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings: 4/2, 3/1, 2/1. Includes a triplet of eighth notes in the bass line.
- System 2:** Starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Includes a slur over a quarter note in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass.
- System 3:** Starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Includes a slur over a quarter note in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass.

DUET ACCOMPANIMENT: Student plays one octave higher.

Driving (♩ = 88)

4/4 time signature, key signature of one sharp (F#). The score is divided into three systems of four measures each, with RH and LH parts.

- System 1:** Starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Includes fingerings (1, 2, 3, 5) and slurs for both hands.
- System 2:** Starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Includes fingerings (4, 1, 3) and slurs for both hands.
- System 3:** Starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Includes fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and slurs for both hands.

Ragtime Fun

Ragtime

Melody Bober

Spirited ($\text{♩} = 108$)

DUET ACCOMPANIMENT: Student plays one octave higher.

Spirited ($\text{♩} = 108$)