

# Toy Collection

## Elementary Piano Solos

by Teresa Richert



Cover illustration by William Kimber

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ISMN: 979-0-9001444-8-5

# Preface

When composing pieces for young students, I like to write pieces that I would have enjoyed playing at an early age or teaching to my younger students. Many of my favorites for playing and teaching were written by Canadian composers.

When I first started composing, much of what I wrote arose from improvisation at the piano with some specific musical features in mind. Titles often came later. More recently, I tend to choose interesting age-appropriate subjects as starting points for inspiration and compose a group of pieces around them.

***Toy Collection*** (originally published by the Frederick Harris Music Co. Limited 2015) is an ideal example. My goal was to compose pieces about "timeless toys" -- toys that would have appeal today and for many years to come. I figured that any toys that were popular when my siblings and I were young and are still popular today would likely be around for many more years.

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# Blocks

With determination ♩ = 88 - 100

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The first system of music is in 4/4 time and begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The right hand starts with a triplet of eighth notes (marked with a '3' over a '2') and continues with a series of eighth notes, some beamed together. The left hand plays a simple bass line with a long note in the first measure and a half note in the second. A fingering '5' is indicated below the first note of the left hand.

The second system continues the piece, marked with a *cresc.* (crescendo) dynamic. The right hand features a triplet of eighth notes and a series of eighth notes, some with accents. The left hand continues its bass line. A mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic is indicated in the third measure. The system concludes with a fingering '5' above a note in the right hand and fingerings '2' and '1' below notes in the left hand.



# Doll House

Dreamily ♩ = 63 - 72

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The musical score is written for piano in G major and common time. It consists of two systems of four measures each. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The right hand (RH) plays a melody of eighth notes with fingerings 3-1, 2, 3-1, and 5-1. The left hand (LH) plays a bass line of quarter notes with fingerings 3, 3, and 3. The second system begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The RH melody continues with fingerings 2, 2, 2-1, and 5-1. The LH bass line continues with fingerings 3 and 3. The piece concludes with a fermata over the final measure of the second system.

# Teddy Bear

Singing merrily ♩ = 108 - 120

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The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 3/4 time signature. It features a melodic line with a slur over measures 1-6. Fingerings are indicated: '2' above the first two notes, '1' above the fifth note, and '2' above the sixth note. Dynamics include *mp legato* at the start, a hairpin crescendo leading to *mf* at the end of the slur. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a simple accompaniment of quarter notes. A fingering of '1' is shown under the first note.

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melody from the first system, with a slur over measures 7-10. Dynamics include *mp* at the start of the slur, followed by a hairpin crescendo leading to *f* at the end of the slur. The lower staff continues the accompaniment. In measure 8, there is a dynamic change to *p* in the upper staff and *mf* in the lower staff. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' and *mf* in the lower staff. Fingerings '4 2' are shown above the notes in measures 8 and 9.

# Super Hero Action Figure

Grandly ♩ = 126 - 138

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The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It features a series of chords and melodic lines. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, featuring a bass line with fingerings 5, 1, 2, and 5. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo) in the upper staff and *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the lower staff.

The second system of music continues from the first. The upper staff ends with a *Fine* marking. The lower staff includes a *rit. (2nd time)* marking. Dynamics include *p* (piano) in the upper staff and *f* (forte) in the lower staff. Fingerings 5 and 1 are indicated in the lower staff.



# Video Game Adventure

Lively ♩ = 132 - 160

Teresa Richert

Musical score for "Video Game Adventure" by Teresa Richert. The score is in 2/4 time and consists of two systems of five measures each. The first system starts with a treble clef, a 2/4 time signature, and a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The right hand (RH) plays a melody with a slur over the first two notes and a finger number 2 above. The left hand (LH) plays a bass line with a slur over the first two notes and a finger number 4 below. The second system continues the melody and bass line with various fingerings (1, 3, 1, 3) and slurs. The third system has a piano (*p*) dynamic and a slur over the first two notes of the RH with a finger number 2 above. The fourth system has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and a slur over the first two notes of the LH with a finger number 4 below. The fifth system continues the melody and bass line with slurs and fingerings. The score ends with a fermata over the final note of the RH in the fifth measure of the second system.

# Fire Truck

Teresa Richert

With excitement ♩ = 100 - 112

The musical score for "Fire Truck" is written for piano in 6/8 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system is marked *mf* and *legato*. The treble clef part begins with a half note G4 (fingered 5), followed by a dotted half note G4. The bass clef part begins with a half note G2 (fingered 5), followed by a dotted half note G2. The second system is marked *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *f*. The treble clef part features a series of eighth notes with various fingerings: 4, 2, 4, 4, 3, 1, 3, 2, 1, 3, 1, 3, 2, 1, 3. The bass clef part features a series of eighth notes with various fingerings: 5, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1, 3.

# Toy Train

Teresa Richert

Happily ♩ = 116 - 120

The musical score for 'Toy Train' is presented in two systems. Both systems are in common time (C) and feature a steady eighth-note bass line. The first system is marked *mf* and includes a fingering of 5-2 in the treble and 5 in the bass. The second system is marked *f* and includes a fingering of 5 in the bass and a first ending bracket in the treble with fingerings 1-5, 2-3-4.

# Bouncing Ball

Bouncing playfully ♩ = 132 - 160

Teresa Richert

The musical score for "Bouncing Ball" is presented in two systems. The first system is marked *mp* and the second *mf*. The piece is in 5/8 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notation includes fingerings (2, 4, 5), dynamics (*mp*, *mf*, *f*), and articulation (accents, slurs). The score is written for piano accompaniment.

# Racing Cars

Teresa Richert

With energy ♩ = 100 - 120

The musical score is written for piano in 6/8 time. It consists of two systems of five measures each. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a *legato* instruction. It features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. The second measure of the first system has a crescendo hairpin. The third measure has a decrescendo hairpin. The fourth measure has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second system starts at measure 6. It continues with triplets and slurs. The third measure of the second system has a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic. The score includes various fingerings (1-5) and rests throughout.

# Plush Toy Parade

Marching ♩ = 132 - 152, swing 8ths

Teresa Richert

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system (measures 1-4) begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the melody with various fingerings. The third system (measures 9-11) features a change in texture with chords in the treble and a steady bass line. The fourth system (measures 12-15) includes a piano (*p*) section followed by a forte (*f*) section, with a crescendo hairpin connecting them. Fingerings and articulation marks are provided throughout the piece.

# Notes for Teachers

## Features of the Pieces

**Blocks** (marked With determination) harmonic intervals, clusters, slurs, staccato, accents, *tenuto*, damper pedal, *ritardando*, *8va*, *crescendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f*

**Little Red Wagon** (marked Playfully) harmonic 3rds, chromaticism, *legato*, *staccato*, slurs, accents, *fermata*, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f*

**Doll House** (marked Dreamily) crossovers, syncopated pedalling, *una corda* optional, *tenuto*, *ritardando*, dynamic range *pp* to *mp*

**Teddy Bear** (marked Singing merrily) triple meter with dotted rhythms, RH and LH melody, slurs, *legato*, *ritardando*, *diminuendo*, *crescendo*, opportunity for voicing in RH, dynamic range *pp* to *f*

**Super Hero Action Figure** (marked Grandly) LH melody, slurs, *staccato*, D.C. al Fine, *ritardando*, rolled chord, *fermata*, damper pedal, *crescendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f*

**Video Game Adventure** (marked Lively) duple meter, whole tone and chromatic scales, melody shared between hands, slurs, *staccato*, accents, *fermata*, *ritardando*, dynamic range *pp* to *ff*

**Fire Truck** (marked With excitement) compound meter, chromatic scale, slurs, *legato*, *crescendo*, dynamic range *p* to *ff*

**Toy Train** (marked Happily) harmonic intervals, D.C. al Fine, *fermata*, *staccato*, *legato*, accents, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f*

**Bouncing Ball** (marked Bouncing playfully) mixed meter, changing meter, *staccato*, accents, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f*

**Racing Cars** (marked With energy) compound meter, *ritardando*, *a tempo*, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *f*

**Plush Toy Parade** (marked Marching) swing rhythm, triplet, grace notes, accents, *staccato*, slurs, *fermata*, *8vb*, opportunity for voicing in RH, *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, dynamic range *pp* to *ff*