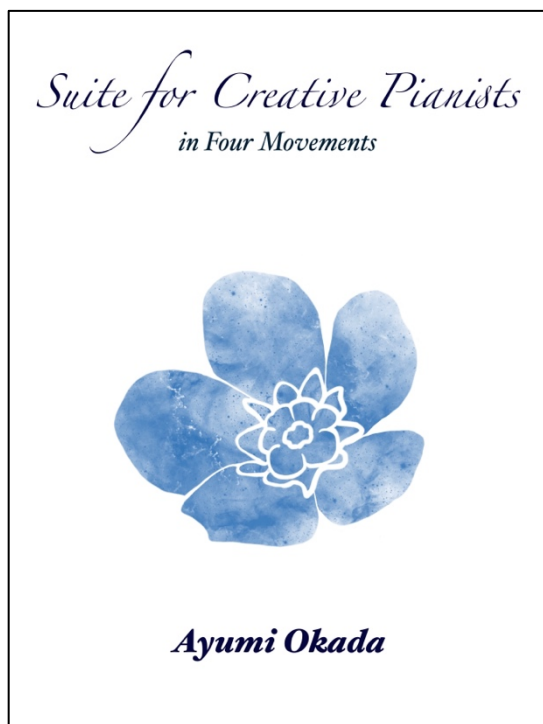


AYUMI OKADA

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- I. Welcoming the Sun**
- II. Forget Me Not**
- III. Snowy Mountains**
- IV. The Star Festival**

Suite for Creative Pianists

for Solo Piano by Ayumi Okada

< Creative Version >

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Red Leaf Pianoworks
www.redleafpianoworks.com

ABOUT THE SUITE

Suite for Creative Pianists invites late intermediate-level pianists to exercise their creativity through improvisation prompted by the various creative elements woven into each movement. The creative elements include articulations, dynamics, registers, harmony, melody, and feel. The Composer's Edition is available at ayumiokada.com for those interested in playing the composer's version.

Every movement presents a different atmosphere and imagery, vaguely associated with seasons (in no particular order). Pianists can play the whole suite to enjoy the wide variety of characters or choose the ones that resonate with them most.

I. Welcoming the Sun

Welcoming the Sun depicts how the fairy of sunlight travels across Earth's various surfaces—rocks, grass, rivers, and everywhere in between—letting everyone know that the Sun has risen. This playful, joyous, and energetic piece explores different articulations and phrases encompassing a wide range of piano registers.

II. Forget Me Not

Forget Me Not is named after the humble spring flower that represents remembrance. This piece is dedicated to loved ones whom we have lost. The opening canon depicts how we reach out to them in spirit, followed by a simple melody played over a waltz-like accompaniment.

III. Snowy Mountains

The imagery depicted in *Snowy Mountains* starts with a group of mountaineers silently climbing a snow-covered hill. Then, the perspective zooms out and reveals the entire range of snow-capped mountains. The accompaniment's steady pulse and the melody's ascending figures represent the climbers' endeavor, while the harmony depicts nature's breathtaking beauty.

IV. The Star Festival

Portrayed in *The Star Festival* is an imaginary festival, a special night celebrating the stars. As people gather and start dancing and singing passionately, their thoughts travel through the sky and experience the wonder of the galaxy. The strong beats and the consistent shifting of the keys drive the piece.

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I. Welcoming the Sun

Ayumi Okada

Giocoso (♩ = 148)

mf

con pedale

5

9

13

RH

LH

4

4

4

1

Measures 17-20 of the musical score. Measure 17 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 18 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 19 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 20 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. The score includes various articulations such as accents and slurs.

Creative Element No. 1: Articulations

- For measures 21-28, add articulations of your choice to give the passages a unique shape and character. Notate them in the music for consistency.

Measures 21-24 of the musical score. Measure 21 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 22 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 23 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 24 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. The score includes various articulations such as accents and slurs.

Measures 25-28 of the musical score. Measure 25 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 26 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 27 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. Measure 28 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a half note F3. The score includes various articulations such as accents and slurs.

I. Welcoming the Sun

29

cresc.

Creative Element No. 2: Register improvisation

- For measures 33-36, improvise the LH using note G of any register on the written rhythm to create a playful atmosphere. The Gs could be doubled with an octave or go above RH.

33

f

mp

2 (3 1 2)

37

mf

f

8va

RH

LH

II. Forget Me Not

Ayumi Okada

Creative Element No. 1: Performance inspiration

- Read the poem at the end and use it as an inspiration for the performance interpretation.

Echoing (♩. = 44)

8va-
semplice
p
con pedale

1 2 3

3-5
RH 1

5 1-2
mf espressivo

5 1 2
mp dim.

poco rit.

1-2

Amabile (♩. = 48)

9 4
p

13 4
poco rit.

II. Forget Me Not

17 *a tempo*

21

Cantabile, con anima

25 *mf*

Creative Element No. 2: Melody options

- For measures 29-32, choose melody option A or B, or improvise your own melody.

28

Option A

Gm

F#dim7

1 2 1

1 2 3 4 1 3 5

f *mp* *f*

Option B

1 2

1 2 1 2

f *mp* *f*

II. Forget Me Not

9

31 *Bb/F* *Em7(b5)* *poco rit.*

mp *f* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *sub. mp cresc.*

34 *mf cresc.* *molto rit.*

Red.

Con sentimento

37 *a tempo* *mp*

41 *p* *mp dolce* *poco rit.*

Echoing (♩. = 44)

Forget Me Not

I'm here, singing for you.
Hope you're hearing it from somewhere.

Where are you? Are you crying?
Hope you're smiling as I remember you.

*La la la la, la la la la,
La la la la la, la la la...*

I hope you'll remember this song
When you feel lonely.

- Ayumi Okada

III. Snowy Mountains

Ayumi Okada

Andante melancolia (♩ = 80)

Measures 1-4 of the piece. The right hand plays a melodic line in 4/4 time. The left hand plays a bass line starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic and fingerings 1 and 2 indicated.

Measures 5-8 of the piece. The right hand continues the melodic line. The left hand continues the bass line with various chords and fingerings.

Measures 9-12 of the piece. The right hand continues the melodic line. The left hand continues the bass line with various chords and fingerings. The dynamic is marked *mp*.

con pedale

Creative Element No. 1: Harmony improvisation

- For measures 14-16, improvise the LH chord progression (cadence) with the indicated rhythm to create a dramatic effect.

Measures 13-16 of the piece. The right hand continues the melodic line. The left hand continues the bass line with various chords and fingerings. The dynamic is marked *sub. p*. Chords are labeled: Am7 and Bbmaj7.

III. Snowy Mountains

17

mp

21

25

mf

con pedale

29

poco rit.

Creative Element No. 2: Harmony improvisation

- For measures 33-36, improvise the LH harmony with the indicated rhythm to gradually build the tension.

a tempo

33 *mp*

37 *f* *poco rit.*

Ped. *

Calmato

8va-
a tempo
RH

rit.

LH *p* *pp*

41

Ped. *

IV. The Star Festival

Ayumi Okada

Creative Element No. 1: Articulations and dynamics

- Throughout the piece, add articulations and dynamics of your choice to shape the character of the piece. Notate them in the music for consistency.

Tranquillo (♩ = c. 114)

Measures 1-4 of 'Tranquillo'. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as Tranquillo with a quarter note equal to approximately 114 beats per minute. The score shows a piano introduction with a sustained bass line in the left hand and a melody in the right hand. The first measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The second measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The third measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The fourth measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand.

con pedale

Measures 5-8 of 'Tranquillo'. The music continues with a sustained bass line in the left hand and a melody in the right hand. The fifth measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The sixth measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The seventh measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The eighth measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat signs.

Lively (♩ = c. 134)

Measures 9-12 of 'Lively'. The music is in 6/8 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as Lively with a quarter note equal to approximately 134 beats per minute. The score shows a piano introduction with a sustained bass line in the left hand and a melody in the right hand. The ninth measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The tenth measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The eleventh measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The twelfth measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand.

Measures 13-16 of 'Lively'. The music continues with a sustained bass line in the left hand and a melody in the right hand. The thirteenth measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The fourteenth measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The fifteenth measure has a quarter note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand. The sixteenth measure has a half note in the right hand and a half note in the left hand.

17

21

25

29

33

1
3

3
1

5
1

5
2

4
1

4

3
1
2
1
2

IV. The Star Festival

37

3

41

45

49

53

57

3 2 1 2 1 2 1 3 2 1 2 1 4 5

61

65

1 2 3 1

69

73

3 5 5 4 5 3

IV. The Star Festival

Creative Element No. 2: Melody improvisation

- For measures 77-88, improvise a RH melody to the written chords to create a cosmic atmosphere.
Consider using the following scales: G Dorian scale (G, A, B \flat , C, D, E, F, G) for measures 77-80 & 85-88 and A Major scale for measures 81-84. Or, explore the possibility of using various Pentatonic scales.

77 B \flat maj7(b5)/A Em7(b5) B \flat maj7(b5)/A Em7(b5)

81 A(add9) C \sharp m7/E A(add9) C \sharp m7/E

85 B \flat maj7(b5)/A E dim B \flat maj7(b5)/A E dim Gm/B \flat

89

93

Grandioso

97

101

105

109

poco rit.

a tempo

113

RH LH

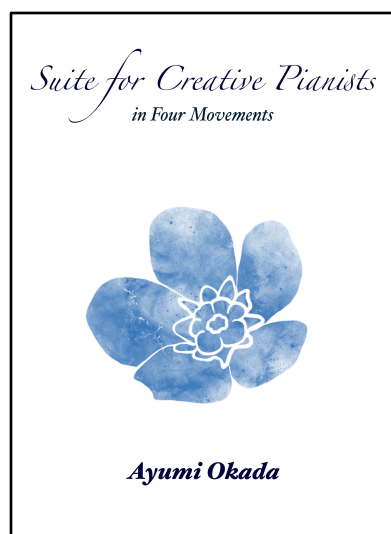
Ped.

5

*

Suite for Creative Pianists

Late Intermediate Piano Solos



This unique suite of piano solos, written to be featured at the 2021 Festival for Creative Pianists, incorporates improvisation as part of the piece to inspire pianists' creativity. By exploring various possibilities for each creative element/prompt, the pianists will gain insight into the compositional process, nurture a proactive approach to performance, and obtain a repertoire that can genuinely feel like their own! The Composer's Edition is also available at ayumiokada.com for those interested in playing the composer's version.

Artwork by Ayumi Okada

A native of Kyoto, Japan, **Ayumi Okada** is a New York-based composer, pianist, and educator. Her passion for composition was found and fostered in her childhood piano studies through the Yamaha Music Education System. She studied music education at Kyoto University of Education and earned a Master's degree in Composition from Mannes School of Music in New York. Her chamber music pieces have been performed by numerous ensembles, including American Wild Ensemble, Juventas New Music Ensemble, Listen Closely, A.W. Duo, Musica Verto Novo, and Alaria Chamber Ensemble. Several of her pieces for string instruments were featured at the 2024 American String Teachers Association (ASTA) and Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA) Conferences. She is a member of Red Leaf Pianoworks, a collective of award-winning composers, and the Publication Review Committee of Abundant Silence, the publishing imprint of the Festival for Creative Pianists, a nonprofit arts education organization of which she is a board member.

