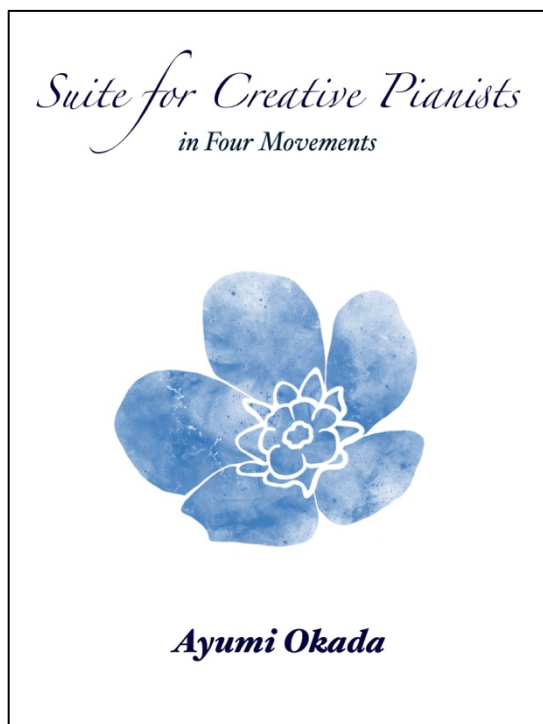


AYUMI OKADA

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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

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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

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 piece is in 2/4 time.

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 piece is in 2/4 time.

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 piece is in 2/4 time.

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

37

mf

f

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
RH 1
1 2 3
5 1 2
mf espressivo
mp dim.
poco rit.
1-2

Amabile (♩. = 48)

9
p
13
4
poco rit.

II. Forget Me Not

17 *a tempo*

21

Cantabile, con anima

25

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)

46 *8va* *rit.*

semplice
p

RH
3

pp

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

Andante melancolia (♩ = 80)

A musical score for the song 'The Rose Tree'. The score is written for voice and piano. The voice part is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part features a prominent bass line with a 'p' (piano) dynamic marking. The melody is simple and catchy, with a clear 4-beat structure. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady bass line with some harmonic support in the right hand.

5

Musical score for 'The Rose Tree' in G major, 2/4 time. The score consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble staff is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The bass staff accompaniment is: G3 (half), B2 (half), G3 (half), B2 (half), G3 (half), B2 (half), G3 (half), B2 (half). The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

9

mp

con pedale

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

13

Am7

Bbmaj7

sub. *p*

III. Snowy Mountains

17

mp

21

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

25

mf

con pedale

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

29

poco rit.

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

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)

con pedale

rit.

Lively (♩ = c. 134)

17

3 1 5 1 5 2 4 1

21

25

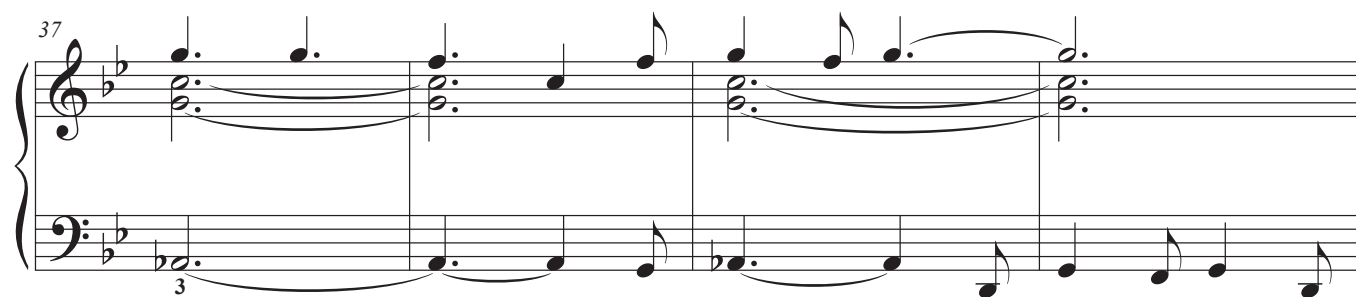
29

4

33

1 3 3 1 2 1 2

IV. The Star Festival



57

61

65

69

73

8va

Ped. *

Ped. *

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.

The musical score is divided into five systems, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is G major (one sharp).

- System 1 (Measures 77-80):**
 - Measure 77: Treble staff has a melodic fragment (B $\flat$, A, G). Bass staff has a chord: B $\flat$ maj7(b5)/A.
 - Measure 78: Bass staff has a chord: Em7(b5).
 - Measure 79: Bass staff has a chord: B $\flat$ maj7(b5)/A.
 - Measure 80: Bass staff has a chord: Em7(b5).
- System 2 (Measures 81-84):**
 - Measure 81: Bass staff has a chord: A(add9).
 - Measure 82: Bass staff has a chord: C $\sharp$ m7/E.
 - Measure 83: Bass staff has a chord: A(add9).
 - Measure 84: Bass staff has a chord: C $\sharp$ m7/E.
- System 3 (Measures 85-88):**
 - Measure 85: Bass staff has a chord: B $\flat$ maj7(b5)/A.
 - Measure 86: Bass staff has a chord: E dim.
 - Measure 87: Bass staff has a chord: B $\flat$ maj7(b5)/A.
 - Measure 88: Bass staff has a chord: E dim.
- System 4 (Measures 89-92):**
 - Measure 89: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (4, 4, 4, 4). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.
 - Measure 90: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (4, 4, 4, 4). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.
 - Measure 91: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (4, 4, 4, 4). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.
 - Measure 92: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (4, 4, 4, 4). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.
- System 5 (Measures 93-96):**
 - Measure 93: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (4, 4, 4, 4). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.
 - Measure 94: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (4, 4, 4, 4). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.
 - Measure 95: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (4, 4, 4, 4). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.
 - Measure 96: Treble staff has a melodic line with fingerings (1, 2, 3). Bass staff has a chord: Gm/B $\flat$.

Grandioso

97

101

105

109

poco rit.

a tempo

113

RH LH

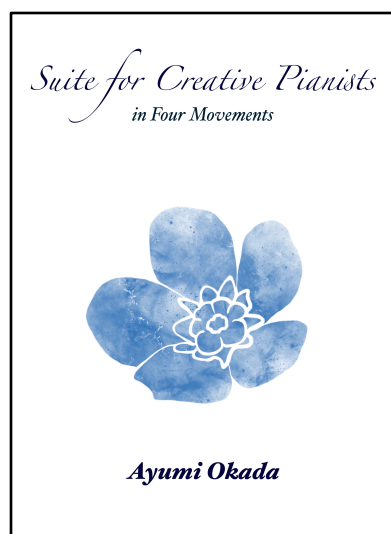
Ped.

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.

