

Clemens Hoffman

3 Pieces for Piano Solo & 2 Piano Duets

Universal Edition

Clemens Hoffman is a classically trained pianist and composer but has also performed in pop and jazz bands. The 3 pieces are named 1. 'Piece for Piano', 2. 'Tree of Life' and 3. 'Adagio for Piano'. Duets 1 and 2 are also included. Clemens has been teaching the piano since he was a music student at Eschweiler Music School, and he formed his own piano practice in 2000.

The introduction states ' This collection of piano works by Clemens Hoffman is a continuation of his two previous books, 18 Pieces for Piano and 25 Sketches for Piano' The first piece moves along in mainly semiquavers and is a movement reminiscent of an early classical sonata and provides running finger passages in both hands. It comes with suggested metronome speeds and fingering. 'Tree of Life' is a plaintive, musical impression of the various stages of life that humans experience. Movement 3 'Adagio' is the most ambitious and technically more difficult movement suitable for upper intermediate – advanced pianists. It contains full chords, lots of triplet note patterns, swirling extended arpeggios, contrary motion arpeggios, contrary motion finger passages, lateral extensions and intricate passage work and makes an excellent recital piece in the grand style for recitals, festivals and competitions which will bring new ideas to the piano pupil and teacher. Clemens has provided extensive fingering but no pedalling indications which should be welcomed by performers wishing to add their own ideas as to sustained sounds and harmonies. There are also included 2 straight forward duets each consisting of 3 small movements. For pianists and teachers, these works provide new harmonic and technical challenges and are well worth exploring.

Melvyn Cooper