

For the Love of Bees

for solo piano

by

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Notes on Performance of *For the Love of Bees* (2010, rev. 2019) for actor and solo piano

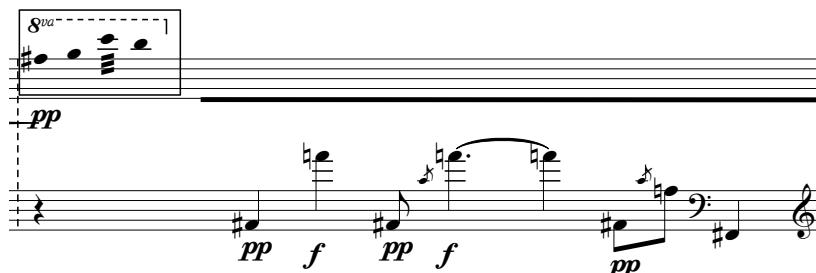
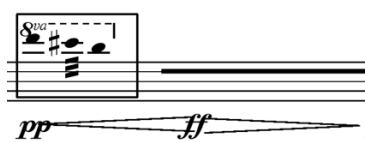
This suite includes six pieces—*Swarm*, *Sting*, *HoneyQueen*, *Myth of the Assassin Bee*, *Solitary Bee*, and *Ode to Bees and Their Keepers*. The pieces can be performed individually.

The pianist can approach tempi freely and should pedal liberally throughout. Where there is a certain resonant emphasis, I have indicated how to pedal. The harmonic blur of the frequent clusters and cluster-like effects should be emphasized.

Swarm

The boxed notes are played for the duration indicated. Play boxed figure below for the time indicated as a rapidly iterated ‘triple’ trill.

ca. 6"



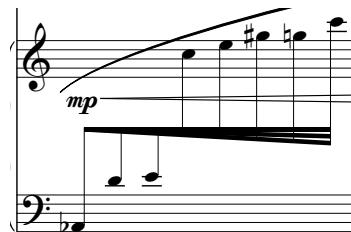
pp

pp f pp f pp

Rapidly repeat 4-note figure rapidly over left-hand notes

Sting

The basic beat for this piece is slow; rubato is encouraged along with high contrast between fast notes and long arrival/destination tones. Pedal liberally; pedaling indications are for specific effects.



Slow accelerating across beat.



Repeated note gradually slows.

HoneyQueen

The slow chords of this piece should be played freely and languorously.

Myth of the Assassin Bees

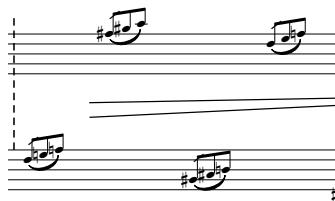
"Myth of the Assassin Bees" is a fast-pulsed and syncopated exploration of virtuosic cross-hand technique with jazz-influenced chords. This piece is inspired by the jazz pianist, Chucho Valdes and refers to a widespread myth spread by the Brazilian military government of the 60s that a renowned scientist had created vicious 'Frankenstein' bees that killed people. In fact, Dr. Warwick Kerr, was a human rights activist as well as scientist and they spread this propaganda in order to discredit him.

Solitary Bee

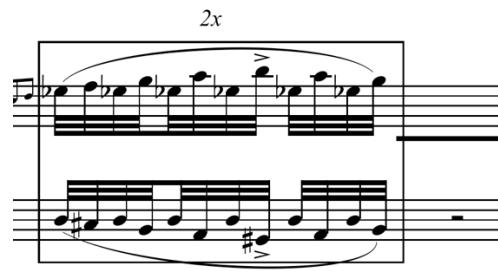
Ground bees live alone in shallow nests in the ground. While not as glamorous as honeybees, they are important pollinators.

Ode to Bees and Their Keepers

Roll grace note figures so they have a blurred effect – or *moué* (wetly) in French. When several of the grace note groups occur, they should be played one after the other in rapid succession. Boxed figures are generally repeated the number of times indicated above the box (e.g., 2x). In a few measures, the figure is repeated the length of the note indicated above (e.g., half note) as in *Swarms*.



Grace note figures.



Repeat boxed figure the designated number of times.

Swarm

ca. 6"

8^{va} ca. 6"

pp ff pp ca. 6" ff pp ff

8^{va}

pp

Use Una Corda pedal wherever dynamic level of pp or ppp is written, slowing releasing into it or out of it to louder dynamic.

4

8^{va}

sfz ff pp

pp f pp f pp f

6

pp mf

molto rit.

a tempo

7

tr

fff ff pp pp

tr

50'

10

p

(tr)

mf-p

meno

ca. 4"

poco accel.

11

poco accel.

12

a tempo

ca. 2"

f

ca. 2"

ca. 2"

ca. 2"

13

subdued

f

sf

p

14

ca. 3"

tr

mp

16 *as light as possible*

17

ca. 4"

ca. 2"

18

f

19

f

p

8va-----1

ff

20

ca. 2"

poco ca. 2"

etc. sim.

poco

pp

ca. 2"

poco

pp

poco

pp

poco

21

tr

s(♯)•

f

p

ff

p

ff

p

ff

==

22

f

pp

ff poco

pp

ca. 2"

23

24

ppp

25

pp *f* *fff*

26

pp *ff*

8va

Play each box around 1 sec. before proceeding to the next, allowing for smooth overlap.

ff

27

pp

STING

*Rubato - high contrast between fast and slow notes
pedal liberally (exact pedal indications for specific effects)*

Piano

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

13

Pno.

14

Pno.

15

legato

mp

ff

mf

Pno.

16

Pno.

17

p

Pno.

18

Pno.

poco rit

mp

f

20

Pno.

accel.

ff

a tempo

f

22

Pno.

24

Pno.

mf

25

Pno.

26

Pno.

27

Pno.

28

Pno.

29

Pno.

Led. *

lurching

Pno.

30

Pno.

31

Pno.

32

Pno.

33

Pno.

34

Pno.

Pno.

36

molto rubato, pedal liberally

Pno.

37

f *p*

Pno.

38

Pno.

39

p

Pno.

40

3

Musical score for piano (Pno.) in 4/4 time. The key signature changes from B-flat major (two flats) to E major (one sharp). Measure 41 starts with a treble clef and a B-flat key signature. It features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and sixteenth-note grace notes. Measure 42 begins with a bass clef and an E major key signature. The dynamic is marked *f*. The score includes performance instructions like "rit." (ritardando) and "3" indicating triplets.

Pno.

44

rall.

a tempo

ff

Musical score for piano, page 45, measures 45-50. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is treble clef, and the bottom staff is bass clef. Measure 45: Dynamics *broadly* and *8va*. Measure 46: Dynamics *8va*. Measure 47: Dynamics *8va*. Measure 48: Dynamics *fff*. Measure 49: Pedal (Ped.). Measure 50: Dynamics *l.v.*

HoneyQueen

Meastoso

= ca. 72

1

Ped. Ped.

8

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

11 (rushed)

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

12

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

16

slowly roll

p

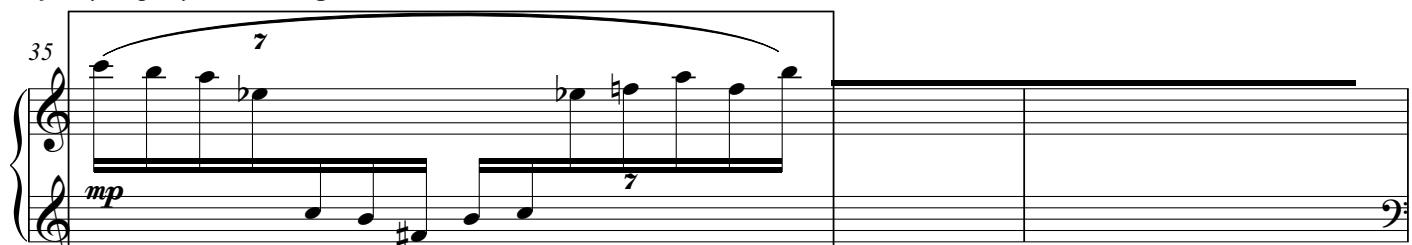
20 *f* *tr.* *p*

22 *mf* *p* *f*

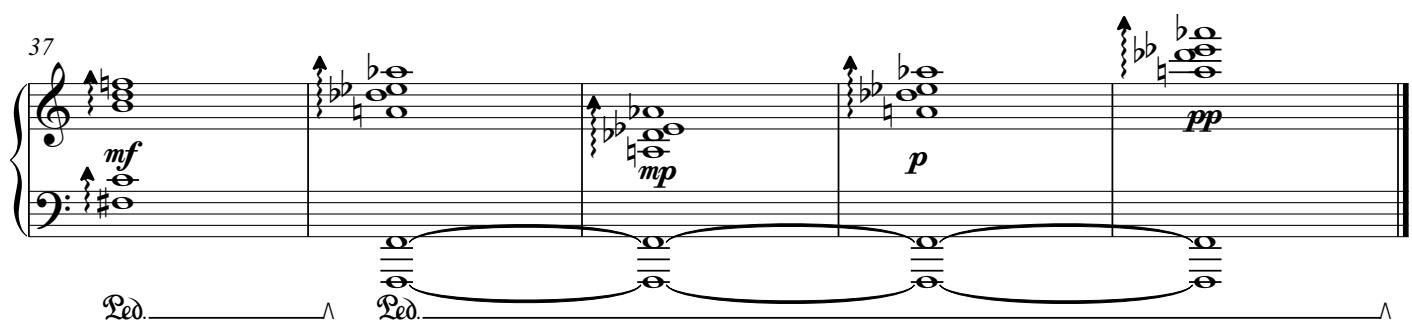
26 *mf* *f* *mp* *f*

31 *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

freely, rapidly but slowing towards end



Reo. _____ A



Reo. _____ A

Myth of the Assassin Bees

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$

Piano

1

f

mp

p

mp

p

f

mp

f

2

f

mp

p

mp

p

f

3

f

mp

f

4

f

mp

p

mp

p

f

5

f

mp

f

6

f

mp

f

7

f

mp

f

8

f

9

f

mp

f

Measure 1: Treble clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: forte (f), mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f). Measure 2: Bass clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f). Measure 3: Treble clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: forte (f), mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f). Measure 4: Bass clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: forte (f), mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f). Measure 5: Treble clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: forte (f), mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f). Measure 6: Bass clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: forte (f), mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f). Measure 7: Treble clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: forte (f), mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f). Measure 8: Bass clef, 4/4 time, key signature 1 sharp. Dynamics: forte (f). Measure 9: Treble clef, 4/4 time, key signature 2 sharps. Dynamics: mezzo-forte (mp), forte (f).

10

11

12

13

14

15

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

mp — *f*

25

pp

26

27

28

ff

Led.

Led.

Led.

Led.

Musical score for piano, featuring two staves (treble and bass) across six pages (29-34). The score includes dynamic markings, performance instructions, and measure numbers.

Page 29: Measures 29-30. Treble staff: eighth-note pairs followed by quarter notes. Bass staff: eighth-note pairs. Key signature changes from B-flat major to A major.

Page 30: Measures 30-31. Treble staff: eighth-note pairs. Bass staff: eighth-note pairs. Key signature changes from A major to G major.

Page 31: Measures 31-32. Treble staff: eighth-note pairs. Bass staff: eighth-note pairs. Dynamics: *mp*, *f*. Performance instruction: *Legato*.

Page 32: Measures 32-33. Treble staff: eighth-note pairs. Bass staff: eighth-note pairs. Dynamics: *f*. Measure 33 ends with a repeat sign and 4/4 time.

Page 33: Measures 33-34. Treble staff: eighth-note pairs. Bass staff: eighth-note pairs. Dynamics: *pp*, *Legato*. Measure 34 ends with a repeat sign and 4/4 time.

Page 34: Measures 34-35. Treble staff: eighth-note pairs. Bass staff: eighth-note pairs. Dynamics: *Legato*.

35

36

37

f

Ped. *Ped.*

38

poco rall. - - - -

Ped. *Ped.*

39

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

40

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

41

Ped.

42

Ped. ^ Ped.

43

ff afap
Ped.

45

etc. sim.
Ped. ^ Ped.

48

18
Ped. ^ Ped.

49 *18*

50 *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

51 *ff* *p* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff* *ff* *p* *ff* *ff*

52 *l.v.* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

53 *ff > p < ff* *Ped.*

54 *Ped.*

55 *f* *Ped.*

56 *Ped.*

57 *f* *Ped.*

58 *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

The score continues with measures 52 through 58, each containing two staves. The top staff consistently uses a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The bottom staff consistently uses a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measures 52-54 feature eighth-note patterns and sustained notes. Measures 55-58 show more complex harmonic changes with various note heads and rests.

59

Rœd.

60

Rœd.

ritardando

61

Rœd.

62

Rœd.

63

mf 8vbl

Rœd.

* Rœd.

ff

*

Solitary Bee

Slowly, reflectively

Piano

The sheet music consists of five staves of piano music. Staff 1 (measures 1-7) starts with a treble clef, 3/4 time, and a key signature of one sharp. It features eighth-note patterns with dynamic markings *mp* and *Ped.*. Staff 2 (measures 8-12) shows a transition with a bass clef, 3/4 time, and a key signature of one sharp. Measures 13-17 continue with a treble clef, 3/4 time, and a key signature of one sharp. Measure 18 (measures 19-22) includes a dynamic marking *poco rall.* Measure 23 concludes the piece with a treble clef, 6/8 time, and a key signature of one sharp, followed by a tempo instruction $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$.

8

13

19

23

f

poco rall.

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$

27

31

36

40

45

50 $\text{♩} = 112$

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

53 rit.

Ped.

57

Ped.

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers

4x

mf

f

mf

p *f* *p*

*The small 3 note figures should be played 'mouille' -- a French term meaning wet - i.e. as a smudge, not articulating clearly each note -

4

mf *p* *f*

p

f

3x

p

f

p

4x

p

7

f

p

f

p

3x

f

p

8

f

p

f

p

3x

f

p

9

2x (cross hands)

f

mf

f

tr

p

tr

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers

29

13

16

3x

17

8va

19

(tr)

23

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers
a tempo

25

27

29

30

31

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers

31

33

36

38

40

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers

42 (play throughout length of left hand figures)

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

poco

tr

subito p

mf

f

mp

f

mf

p

f

mf

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers

Sheet music for piano, page 10, measures 50-54. The music is in 2/4 time. The left hand (bass) is mostly silent or provides harmonic support, while the right hand (treble) plays intricate melodic patterns. Measure 50 starts with a dynamic *f*. Measure 51 begins with a dynamic *p*, followed by *f*, and includes a instruction: *etc. sim.* Measure 52 continues with a dynamic *p*, followed by *f*. Measure 53 shows a sustained note with a dynamic *#tr*. Measure 54 concludes with a dynamic *(ff)*.

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers

A musical score for piano, featuring two staves (treble and bass) and three systems of music. Measure 55 starts with a dynamic of ***ff***. Measure 56 begins with ***ff*** and ends with ***pp***. Measure 57 starts with ***rit.*** and ***pp***. Measure 58 concludes with ***ppp***.

Measure 55: Treble staff has sixteenth-note patterns. Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. Dynamic: ***ff***.

Measure 56: Treble staff has sixteenth-note patterns. Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. Dynamic: ***ff*** at the beginning, ***pp*** at the end.

Measure 57: Treble staff has sixteenth-note patterns. Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. Dynamic: ***rit.***, ***pp***.

Measure 58: Treble staff has sixteenth-note patterns. Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. Dynamic: ***ppp***.