

Junk Mail

Piano Miniatures for Children

Nathan Kelly

FOR VIEWING ONLY

JUNK MAIL

Movements

1. Furniture Sale
2. Coupons
3. Gas & Power Supply - URGENT NOTICE
4. The Neighbor's Mail (again)
5. Chinese Food Menus
6. Vote for Congressman Bloomfield
7. All-In-One, Hi-Speed Internet & Phone Package Deal

PROGRAM NOTES

The titles of each movement within this set are based on seven pieces of actual mail that arrived at my address in Los Angeles on a particular day. The idea occurred to me after perusing several whimsical solo piano pieces by the French composer Erik Satie, known for his 'absurdist' style. His penchant for unique titles and inventive harmonies inspired me to explore similar creative avenues.

Desiring to compose piano music that day, I sought inspiration from my surroundings. As I prepared to check the daily mail, it struck me that a set of pieces based on the contents of my mailbox could form a delightful suite of 'miniatures'.

While each movement possesses its own distinctive mood, evocative atmosphere, and musical context suggested by its title, I aimed to delineate them swiftly and with significant contrast. Each piece is deliberately concise and was crafted with children in mind, although they may present challenges for young, novice pianists. The written text integrated into the piano score serves to guide the performer through a suggestive narrative or storyline, enhancing the musical journey. During performances, this text can be recited aloud by the performer or narrator, or omitted entirely.

duration 4'30"

JUNK MAIL

Miniatures for Children

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1°

Furniture Sale

Urgently ♩. = 60

The musical score is written for piano solo and consists of 22 numbered measures. It is divided into five systems. The first system (measures 1-5) starts in 3/8 time with a dynamic of *mf* and the instruction *anxiously*. A slur covers measures 1-4, and a second slur covers measures 4-5. The time signature changes to 2/4 at measure 5, with a dynamic of *f* and the instruction *lightly*. The second system (measures 6-10) continues in 2/4 time, with a dynamic of *p* at measure 8 and *mf* at measure 10. The third system (measures 11-15) features a variety of time signatures: 3/8, 3/4, 4/4, 5/8, and 3/8. It includes the instruction *(funny)* at measure 11, a dynamic of *p* at measure 12, and *pp* at measure 15. The fourth system (measures 16-19) includes time signatures of 3/8, 4/4, and 5/8. The fifth system (measures 20-22) includes time signatures of 5/8, 7/8, and 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

Musical score for measures 23 and 24. Measure 23 is in 4/4 time and contains a complex sixteenth-note pattern in both hands. Measure 24 is in 3/4 time and features a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). A large red watermark 'FOR PLEASING' is overlaid on the right side of the page.

Musical score for measures 25, 26, and 27. Measure 25 is in 3/4 time with the lyrics "should we go...?". Measure 26 is in 7/16 time with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) and a crescendo hairpin. Measure 27 is in 3/4 time with the lyrics "(I do need a new chair.)". A large red watermark 'FOR PLEASING' is overlaid on the right side of the page.

2°
Coupons

Easily ♩ = 72

Musical score for measures 1 through 5. The piece is in 3/8 time and begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano). The melody is simple and rhythmic. A large red watermark 'FOR PLEASING' is overlaid on the page.

Musical score for measures 6 through 12. The piece continues in 3/8 time with a steady, rhythmic accompaniment. A large red watermark 'FOR PLEASING' is overlaid on the page.

Musical score for measures 13 through 16. Measure 13 has the lyrics "(Ooo!)" and a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). Measure 15 has the lyrics "*f* (cut, cut, cut...)" and features a double bar line followed by a repeat sign. A large red watermark 'FOR PLEASING' is overlaid on the page.

Gas & Power Supply Company - URGENT NOTICE

Moderato (♩ = 56)

1 *p unassumingly*

2 *dolce*

3 *mf nervously*

4 *mp*

5 *p*

6 *mp bitterly*

7

8

9 *mf*

10 *resolutely*

11 *dim.*

12

13 *p*

14

Detailed description: This is a piano score for a piece titled 'Gas & Power Supply Company - URGENT NOTICE'. It is in 4/4 time and marked 'Moderato' with a tempo of ♩ = 56. The score consists of 14 measures. Measure 1 starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and the instruction 'unassumingly'. Measure 2 is marked 'dolce'. Measure 3 is marked 'mf' and 'nervously'. Measure 4 is marked 'mp'. Measure 5 is marked 'p'. Measure 6 is marked 'mp' and 'bitterly'. Measure 7 is a continuation of the previous measure. Measure 8 is a continuation of the previous measure. Measure 9 is marked 'mf' and 'resolutely'. Measure 10 is a continuation of the previous measure. Measure 11 is marked 'dim.'. Measure 12 is a continuation of the previous measure. Measure 13 is marked 'p'. Measure 14 is the final measure, ending with a fermata.

The Neighbor's Mail (again)

Sleepily (♩ = 60)

1 *p*

2

3

Detailed description: This is a piano score for a piece titled 'The Neighbor's Mail (again)'. It is in 4/4 time and marked 'Sleepily' with a tempo of ♩ = 60. The score consists of 3 measures. Measure 1 starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 2 is a continuation of the previous measure. Measure 3 is a continuation of the previous measure, ending with a fermata.

Musical score for measures 4-7 of 'Junk Mail'. The score is in 4/4 time and features a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure numbers 4, 5, 6, and 7 are indicated below the staff.

Musical score for measures 8-11 of 'Junk Mail'. Measure 8 is marked **Con brio** and *with panic*. Measure 9 is marked **ff**. Measure 10 is marked **At ease** and *relieved*. Measure 11 ends with a fermata. The score includes dynamic markings and performance instructions.

5°
Chinese Food Menus

Moving forward (♩ = 86)

Musical score for measures 1-3 of 'Chinese Food Menus'. The score is in 4/4 time and features a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure numbers 1, 2, and 3 are indicated below the staff. The score includes dynamic markings *pp poco rubato* and *p*.

Musical score for measures 4-6 of 'Chinese Food Menus'. The score continues the piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Measure numbers 4, 5, and 6 are indicated below the staff.

Musical score for measures 7-9 of 'Chinese Food Menus'. Measure 7 is marked *mp*. Measure 9 ends with a fermata. The score includes dynamic markings and performance instructions. Measure numbers 7, 8, and 9 are indicated below the staff.

Musical score for measures 10-13. The piece is in 3/8 time, which changes to 4/4 for measures 11-13. The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand. Measure 10 starts with a treble clef and a 3/8 time signature. Measure 11 changes to a 4/4 time signature. Measures 12 and 13 continue in 4/4. A fermata is placed over the final note of measure 13.

6°

Vote for Congressman Bloomfield

Hurriedly (♩ = 120)

Musical score for measures 1-3. The piece is in 4/4 time. Measure 1 starts with a 4/4 time signature. Measure 2 changes to a 5/8 time signature. Measure 3 changes to a 3/4 time signature. The music is marked *f stacc.* (forte staccato). The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand.

Musical score for measures 4-7. The piece is in 3/4 time. Measure 4 starts with a 3/4 time signature. Measure 5 changes to a 4/4 time signature. Measure 6 changes to a 4/4 time signature. Measure 7 changes to a 3/4 time signature. The music is marked *angrily*. The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand.

Musical score for measures 8-10. The piece is in 3/4 time. Measure 8 starts with a 3/4 time signature. Measure 9 changes to a 4/4 time signature. Measure 10 changes to a 3/4 time signature. The music is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand. There are markings for *8vb* (8va below) and *(loco)* (loco) in the bass line.

Musical score for measures 11-14. The piece is in 3/4 time. Measure 11 starts with a 3/4 time signature. Measure 12 changes to a 3/4 time signature. Measure 13 changes to a 5/8 time signature. Measure 14 changes to a 2/4 time signature. The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand. There are markings for *LH* (Left Hand) and *16* (16th notes) in the bass line.

Musical score for measures 15-18. The piece is in a minor key with a 2/4 time signature. Measures 15 and 16 are marked *p calmo*. Measures 17 and 18 are marked *mp*. The music features a simple harmonic progression with some melodic movement in the right hand.

7°

All-In-One, Hi-Speed Internet & Phone Package Deal

Bright and snappy (♩ = 120)

Musical score for measures 1-4. The piece is in a major key with a 2/4 time signature. It is marked *mf energetico*. The music is characterized by a bright, rhythmic melody in the right hand and a steady bass line.

Musical score for measures 5-8. The piece continues in a major key with a 2/4 time signature. It is marked *mf energetico*. The music features a bright, rhythmic melody in the right hand and a steady bass line. Measure 8 includes an *8va* marking for the right hand.

Musical score for measures 9-12. The piece is in a major key with a 4/4 time signature. Measures 9-10 are marked *Presto* and *f*. Measures 11-12 are marked *Tempo I°* and *mp*. The music features a fast, rhythmic melody in the right hand and a steady bass line.

Musical score for measures 13-15. The piece is in a major key with a 4/4 time signature. Measure 13 is marked *> p*. Measure 14 is marked *f*. Measure 15 is marked *mp cresc. poco a poco*. The music features a fast, rhythmic melody in the right hand and a steady bass line.