Performance Notes

These pieces were written for my students as recital numbers incorporating elements of jazz such as syncopation, phrasing, articulation and swing, with special emphasis on rhythm. Chord symbols are included on p. 14-15 for pianists wishing to improvise on the given themes.

The main concern in the swing numbers is to play the written quavers

as approximately

For example, the first bar of 'Darren's Dilemma' should sound:



I have found it a useful teaching aid to count quavers in the swing rythm:





This enables the player to more easily co-ordinate seemingly difficult left and right hand rhythms such as in bar 5 of the same piece:



Melinda's Mini March: Quavers to be played as written: left and right hand staccato must be crisp; strictly even tempo and rhythm necessary.

Disco Kid: Quavers as written; keep left hand in bars 1-3 light but with rhythm very tight; left hand octaves to be phrased strictly as written to simulate the Disco bass.

Melissa's Mood: Swing quavers in flowing right hand passages over legato chords; a touch of pedal may be used to help connect left hand chords; syncopated rhythms must be strictly adhered to.

Waltz for Wendy: Swing quavers necessary here; note co-ordination of R.H. triplets against L.H. quavers as in bars 6 and 16.



Miss Miles: Quavers as written; syncopation here is based on the following rhythm -

- and

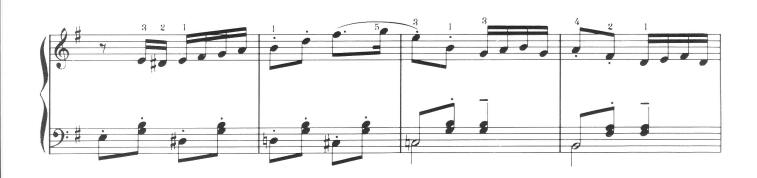
requires strict counting; R.H. articulation very important to achieve the proper effect.

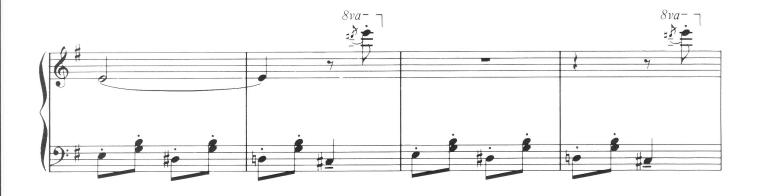
Darren's Dilemma: A straight-ahead swing number for the pianist wanting a challenge; running R.H. passages over legato and syncopated bass.

If care is taken to prepare these numbers accurately, with little or no use of the pedal, I feel that they will make enjoyable and rewarding playing.













DISCO KID

Kerin Bailey



