JOHN BRIMMALL'S EASY BIG NOTE PIANO SOLOS

## Popular Songlook 2

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## JOHN BRIMHALL'S EASY BIG NOTE PIANO SOLOS


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## THEME FROM "SUPERMAN"

## - A John brimhall Mim-Lessom..

This is the most difficult arrangement in this series. There are two basic problem areas: Rhythm and melodic skips. As to rhythm, the solution is to count the problem areas slowly, preferably out loud. Watch for the triplets; keep them even, with a good accent on the first note. (see measures 7 \& 16) The dotted eighth note-sixteenth note patterns must be played as the first and third notes of an imagined triplet: $\sqrt{J}=\frac{3}{\delta \rho}$ (see measures 8 \& 9) The total feeling should be that of $12 / 8$ Time, four beats to the measure, with each beat sub-divided into a triplet. As to melodic skips, slow practice with careful attention to the fingering is the solution to the problem. There are some broken chords which can be effective if fingered properly. (see measures 24 \& 25)
by JOHN WILLIAMS


Fmaj9 Cmaj7



## - A JOHN BRIMHALL Mam-Ľesson.

There is a syncopated rhythm pattern in the first measure, which is later repeated nine times. Count it out carefully.

In the section from measures 11 through 18 , there is melodic syncopation and change of Time Signature. Count out the following example, from measures 12-15.


Words and Music by
NEIL DIAMOND and RICHARD BENNETT Arranged by John Brimhall
Moderately
F


C
Dm
Em




## LAUGHTER IN THE RAIN

## A JOHN BRIMHALL Mim-Lesson

The main characteristic of this arrangement is the syncopation in the melody. In order to play it well, count the rhythm of the melody out loud, with absolutely even eighth notes, as in the following example.


In the fifth line and beyond, each hand has a different syncopation pattern, and must be practiced separately, while counting carefully.

Words and Music by NEIL SEDAKA and PHIL CODY

Arranged by John Brimhall

## Moderately



C7(sus)
C7


- $\frac{0}{b}{ }^{0}$



## BLOW AWAY

## A JOHN BRIMHALL Mın-¿esson.

In the interest of accuracy, the rhythm of the melody line should be counted out carefully. Try the following pattern from the first four measures of the Verse.


Words and Music by GEORGE HARRISON Arranged by John Brimhall




Em


## SOLITAIRE

## a John brimhall Man-Lesson.

The melody jumps around, but is in single notes all the way. Watch the fingering and it will be easier to play. The accompaniment to this melody consists of simple bass and chord patterns which continue all the way through the arrangement. Practice this exercise until you are comfortable with these patterns before beginning the piece.


Words and Music by
NEIL SEDAKA and PHIL CODY
Slowly
Arranged by John Brimhall




Fm 7


## EVERGREEN

(LOVE THEME from A STAR IS BORN)
First Artists presents A BARWOOD-JON PETERS PRODUCTION of A STAR IS BORN

## 

1. The MELODY is written an octave higher, so that it does not conflict with the accompaniment. Keep it as smooth (legato) as possible. To sing this arrangement, most people will find it more comfortable to sing the melody an octave lower than written.
2. The ACCOMPANIMENT consists of two elements: bass and broken chords. These must be unified into one larger broken chord. Throughout the piece, the pedal is changed immediately after the bass note is struck and held until the next bass note is struck. It would be wise to practice the left hand alone before playing both hands together.

Words by
PAUL WILLIAMS
Moderately, with feeling


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C




## CATS IN THE CRADLE

## a John brimhall Mims-Lesson.

This is basically a narrative story set to music. The lyric is of prime importance, with the accompaniment secondary. Watch for the following features of this arrangement:

1. There are four verses printed at the beginning of this arrangement. You can add interest to your performance by playing the right hand an octave higher during one or two of these verses.
2. There is a complex lay-out to follow. The first and second endings repeat to the beginning, but note that in the third verse there are two measures which must be skipped. The third ending, with the D. S., also goes back to the beginning, but skips from the Coda Sign $(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ to the Coda.

Moderate Folk Style
 Arranged by John Brimhall

F

Words and Music by HARRY CHAPIN and SANDY CHAPIN



* 3rd time, omit the two bars between the asterisks.




## REMINISCING

## A JOHN BRIMHALL Mam-Lesson

This arrangement begins with a rhythmic optional introduction of 16 bars. It is interesting and well worth the effort required to learn it properly. Try this method to help learn the rhythm of the first two bars.


The left hand part of the chorus has been kept simple, to allow the player to concentrate on the fast-moving melodic line. Keep it light and clean, in order to get the desired effect.

Moderately
Words and Music by
GRAHAM GOBLE





Fine


## STUMBLIN'IN

## - A John brimhall Mam-liessom.

The primary concern in this arrangement is the rhythm, particularly the right hand ties across the bar lines. Practice the following example from the first two measures, counting carefully.


Words and Music by NICKY CHINN and MIKE CHAPMAN Arranged by John Brimhall




# YOU NEVER DONE IT LIKE THAT 

Words by HOWARD GREENFIELD<br>Music by NEIL SEDAKA<br>Arranged by John Brimhall

## A JOHN BRIMHALL Mam-ณesson

The Captain and Tennille recording of this tune is done in a bright tempo with two beats per measure. It usually helps to practice an arrangement like this in moderate $4 / 4$ Time at first, then gradually go faster, converting to Cut Time.

The written routine of this piece can be confusing unless you observe all the signs. The four verses at the beginning have various endings: 1 st ending, 2nd ending, 3rd ending and skip to Coda. Also, notice the four measure repeated section in the middle, and the repeated section at the end which has 1 st, 2 nd and 3 rd endings. With all of these repeats, these 44 written measures add up to 107 played measures.





G


## CRACKLIN' ROSIE

## A JOHN BRIMHALL Mem-Lesson .u

Although this arrangement is not difficult, it contains some rhythms which are worthy of independent study. These rhythms from measures $23,24,17$ and 20 are isolated in the following example. Count it carefully, in $4 / 4$ Time and in Cut Time.






## HEART OF GOLD





## BOTH SIDES NOW

## - A JOHN BRIMHALL Minı-hesson .u

This arrangement is a little easier than some of the ones in this series. Try to keep the melody as smooth as you can. Whenever you have repeated sections, you must do something to keep your performance interesting. In this particular piece you might play the right hand part one octave higher than written, the second time through. Return to "as written" for the third chorus. Notice that the melody drops into the left hand for two notes in measure 22. Don't break the continuity of the melody at that point.


F



## TIE A YELLOW RIBBON ROUND THE OLE OAK TREE

## A JOHN BRIMHALL Mam-Lesson.

This song gained enormous popularity, in part for its story line, and in part for the bright beat and interesting rhythmic devices. This is another arrangement in which these rhythms must be isolated and counted carefully, in order to make the piece easier to play effectively. Count out the first few bars of the chorus, first in $4 / 4$ Time, and then in Cut Time.

by IRWIN LEVINE and
L. RUSSELL BROWN

Moderately bright





## MR. BOJANGLES

## A JOHN BRIMHALL Man-iesson..

Since this song has so many verses, some variety is needed, in order to avoid a boring performance. Try playing the right hand part an octave higher than written the 2 nd and 4th times through. As a piano solo, limit your performance to three verses, with the middle one an octave higher than written.

The melody of this piece is highly syncopated. Keep the rhythm precise and even. Practice counting this portion of
 the melody.


D




D/C $\#$
D6
1.2 .3 .4
D


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