Mel Bay Presents

Classical Masterpieces for Bass

By Josquin des Pres

BOOK CONTENTS

Introduction .................................................. 2
About The Author ........................................... 2
Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, W.A. Mozart
Bass No. 1 .................................................. 3
Bass No. 2 .................................................. 9
Gymnopedie No. 1, Erik Satie
Bass No. 1 .................................................. 15
Bass No. 2 .................................................. 18
Bourree In E Minor, J.S. Bach
Bass No. 1 and No. 2 ...................................... 22

Far Elise, Ludwig Van Beethoven
Bass No. 1 and No. 2 ....................................... 24
Air For The G String, J.S. Bach
Bass No. 1 .................................................. 30
Bass No. 2 .................................................. 32
Moonlight Sonata, Ludwig Van Beethoven
Bass No. 1 .................................................. 34
Bass No. 2 .................................................. 40
Jesu Joy Of Man’s Desiring, J.S. Bach
Bass No. 1 and No. 2 ...................................... 44

CD CONTENTS

1. Tuning Notes [3:37]
2. Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Bass #1 and Bass #2) [6:51]
3. Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Bass #1, melody with metronome) [6:55]
4. Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Bass #2, accompaniment with metronome) [6:55]
5. Gymnopedie No. 1 (Bass #1 and Bass #2) [3:20]
6. Gymnopedie No. 1 (Bass #1, melody with metronome) [5:16]
7. Gymnopedie No. 1 (Bass #2, accompaniment with metronome) [3:26]
8. Bourree in E minor [2:04]
10. Air For The G String (Bass #1 and Bass #2) [15:47]
11. Air For The G String (Bass #1, melody with metronome) [5:51]
12. Air For The G String (Bass #2, accompaniment with metronome) [5:50]
13. Moonlight Sonata (Bass #1 and Bass #2) [4:43]
14. Moonlight Sonata (Bass #1, melody with metronome) [4:47]
15. Moonlight Sonata (Bass #3, accompaniment with metronome) [4:46]

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Introduction

From a very early age I was exposed to classical music. First as a violinist and then as a classical guitarist. Needless to say that when at age 16! picked up the bass guitar one of my first reflexes was to transpose Bach sonatas for violin into brutal warm-up exercises for the bass. Years later this gave birth to J.S. Bach For Bass (Mel Bay Publications). Most recently, I started dissecting the music of various composers (Mozart, Beethoven, Satie, etc.) and then realized the possibilities were endless.

In this book of seven popular classical pieces you will discover note combinations and intervals rarely heard in common bass playing as well as chords you never thought were playable on the bass guitar. It will broaden your sense of dynamics and enrich your phrasing and musicality.

I would like to thank Brenda Spevak for helping me arrange this material for the bass guitar, without sacrificing the integrity of the original manuscript, and Nick Meucci, Rich Krejc and Chris Williams for their help in proofing the music. I would also like to thank Carvin basses and amps, Vigier basses, Washburn acoustic basses, ART effects processors, La Bella strings, Scott Quinn and Lace Sensor Pickups, John Borja and Monster Cable for their contribution to the audio recording.

Josquin des Pres

About The Author

Josquin des Pres was born in France. As a studio bass player and producer he has worked on dozens of albums on major record labels, sharing credits with world class players such as Alex Acuna, Bunny Brunel, Jerry Goodman, Jeff Porcaro, Billy Sheehan, Steve Lukather, Vinnie Colaiuta, etc. As a songwriter, Josquin has collaborated on numerous songs with Elton John’s lyricist Bernie Taupin.

CD recorded and mixed at Continental Circus Audio. Mastered by Scott Gorham.
Bourree in E minor

This piece may be played with 2 bases
Bass 1 reads up stemnotes
Bass 2 reads down stemnotes

CD #8

J. S. Bach

22
Moonlight Sonata

Bass No. 1
(melody)

Ludwig Van Beethoven

CD #14

34