

concert music

New Scenes
from an Old World
Sonata for Piano

peter gilbert

New Scenes from an Old World

Sonata for Piano

1. Prow's Edge
2. Plain Music
3. Face of Shadow

Notes to the Performer:

1. Prow's Edge

- Slashed noteheads indicate notes which are played “beneathe the surface” as a kind of rhythmic backdrop, while the full noteheads form the foreground. Occasionally this foreground merges back into or emerges seamlessly out of the slashed-notehead background, but generally the difference between the two should be quite audible. These two layers frequently have separate dynamic contours.
- The constant use of pedal deliberately smears the texture. This is a piece as much about billowing clouds of sound and sonority as it is about pace and pulse. In that regard, the overall feel of the piece should be very smooth and connected.
- Solid slurs mark phrases relating to the full-noteheaded foreground notes while dashed slurs indicate phrases relating to the slash-noteheaded background notes.

3. Face of Shadow

- The chords of this movement are extremely dark and generally the chords should be equally voiced or even biased toward the low end, though often the upper voice of the right hand should project melodically.
- Accidentals carry through the measure as usual though some extra “curtesy” accidentals have been given throughout to help with reading and to clarify cross-relations between hands.

I. Prow's Edge

Peter Gilbert

Fast & Smooth (at least ♩=126)

f
pp *mp*

Dynamics for full noteheads are marked above staff (usually louder) and dynamics for small notes are marked below (usually softer)

And. sempre →

f *mp*
pp

mf *p*
pp

11 *f* *mp*
pp

n *mp*

I. Prow's Edge

15 *f* 1 2 3 4 5 *mp*

18 *pp* 20 1 2 3 4 5 6

21 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 *ppp*

24 *mf* *mf* *mp*

28 *pp* 12 8 *mf* 15 16

31 *f* *mf* *poco accel.* *a tempo*

34 *ff*

II. Plain Music

195 **Lilting simply, gently** (♩=120, ♩+♩=48)

espress.
p
pp
poco
(pp)
And. →

207

204

218

212
pp
pp sempre

218
sub. ppp
pp

230

230

III. Face of Shadows

355 Dark & Resonant $\downarrow = 56-60$ (freely, with feeling)

continuing from II. - - - *And. sempre*

mp

5/4

5/4

4/4

4/4

Detailed description: This system contains measures 355 through 360. It is written for piano in a key with three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature starts as 4/4, changes to 5/4 for measures 356 and 357, and returns to 4/4 for measures 358-360. The music is characterized by long, sustained notes and chords, with a dark and resonant quality. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *pp sub.* (pianissimo subito). There are various articulation marks such as accents and slurs.

360

359

pp sub.

mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 359 and 360. The time signature is 4/4. The music continues with sustained chords and melodic lines. Dynamics include *pp sub.* and *mp*. There are accents and slurs throughout the passage.

363

poco a poco

3/4

3/4

4/4

4/4

Detailed description: This system contains measures 363 and 364. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 for measure 363 and returns to 4/4 for measure 364. The music features a *poco a poco* (gradually) dynamic marking. There are slurs and accents present.

369

368

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 368 and 369. The time signature is 4/4. The music is marked *f* (forte). It features complex chordal textures and melodic lines with slurs and accents.