

Last Embrace

for piano or harp

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Completion date: April 17th, 2018.

The notation of this piece reflects its meaning much more than it does the required distribution of hands between the melodic lines, or the duration of selected notes. So as to not overburden the score with pedal indications for the pianist and damping indications for the harp player, in many places long durations are to be understood as those of the sounds. E.g. towards the end of measure 2 in the bottom staff there's a wide aggregate which won't be possible to play as written for most pianists, who should use the pedal here, albeit sparingly. Harp players shouldn't take such indications too literally, though: simply use dynamics and various types of touch to produce a "dry" effect, and follow the piano pedal indications to understand where as little damping as possible is required.

Arpeggi are produced with more or less the same speed throughout the piece. When two aggregates are arpeggiated simultaneously in both staves, make sure they are perfectly synchronized. Trills are always slow, but may change slightly in speed and dynamics while they are happening.

This piece is related in many ways to another work for piano or harp, *The Anniversary*. Studying the earlier work will benefit any performer who is attempting this one.

Last Embrace

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♩=100

Piano / Harp

Measures 1-9 of the piece. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 100. The music is in 4/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with several triplets and a final measure with a ritardando (rit.) and a five-measure rest. The left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes.

10

accel.

accel.

cresc.

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Measures 10-19. The tempo increases with an acceleration (accel.) marking. The music continues with complex textures, including a seven-measure rest in the left hand and a crescendo (cresc.) marking. Pedal points (Ped.) are indicated at the bottom of the score.

♩=40

21

p

mf / mp

♩=75

p

mf / mp

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Measures 20-29. The tempo slows down to quarter note = 40. The music is marked piano (*p*) and mezzo-forte/mezzo-piano (*mf / mp*). The tempo then increases to quarter note = 75. The score includes dynamic markings, a five-measure rest, and pedal points (Ped.) at the bottom.

32 $\text{♩} = 60$

cresc.

p

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. *p* Ped.

42 *tr*

tr

rit.

Ped. Ped. Ped.

52 *molto accel.* $\text{♩} = 90$ *tr* *rit.*

molto accel. $\text{♩} = 90$ *tr* *rit.*

Ped.

58

Ped. Ped. Ped. *tr*