

Emmanuel CHABRIER (1841-1894)

Feuillet d'Album, No 4 from *Cinq morceaux pour piano*

INTERMEDIATE

Chabrier wrote this album leaf late in his career, around 1889. By this stage he had completed the last in a sequence of magnificent comic operas including *Le roi malgré lui* and *L'Etoile*. With *Briséis* he turned again to serious opera but also found time to write piano miniatures and some absurdist songs (including one about little ducks marching like country gentlemen) before delirium and paralysis overtook him as a result of having contracted syphilis in his younger days.

Playing tips: This hauntingly beautiful album leaf looks more complicated on the page to learn than it is to learn, so don't be put off. The notes sit well under the

fingers and the suggested fingering should help. You can use ample pedalling, so finger legato is not a 'must'. As the piece develops, so does the texture, the last two pages being the most challenging. The melody returns in bars 32-33 with a ravishing new triplet accompaniment divided between the hands. Try not to tense the wrists when playing the melody, which is now in octaves (bars 32-38). *Pedal tips:* At the start, one pedal change per bar is sufficient. When the harmonies thicken and change more frequently, then the pedal should follow suit (in bar 8 we suggest three changes, one for each beat).

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half note G5, followed by a quarter note F#5, a quarter note E5, and a quarter note D5, all beamed together. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. It begins with a half note G2, followed by a quarter note F#2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2, all beamed together. The word "dolce" is written above the first measure of the upper staff. The dynamic marking "pp" is written below the first measure of the lower staff. The tempo marking "con Ped." is written below the first measure of the lower staff. The system ends with a double bar line.

The second system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half note G5, followed by a quarter note F#5, a quarter note E5, and a quarter note D5, all beamed together. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. It begins with a half note G2, followed by a quarter note F#2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2, all beamed together. The dynamic marking "sf" is written above the first measure of the upper staff. The system ends with a double bar line.

The third system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half note G5, followed by a quarter note F#5, a quarter note E5, and a quarter note D5, all beamed together. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. It begins with a half note G2, followed by a quarter note F#2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2, all beamed together. The dynamic marking "pp" is written above the first measure of the lower staff. The system ends with a double bar line.

12

sf *rit.* *p* *dim.* *pp*

16

a tempo

mf

19

sf *cresc.*

22

pp

25

pp

1 2 4 5

2 3 5

1 2 5

1

3

3

3

5 3 2 1 4 3

1 4 1 2 5

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25, 26, and 27. Measure 25 features a treble clef with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with fingerings 1, 2, 4, 5, and 2, 3, 5. The bass clef has a lower line with fingerings 1, 4, 1, 2, 5. Measure 26 continues the melodic line with a triplet of notes (1, 2, 5) in the treble. Measure 27 features a triplet of notes (3, 2, 1) in the treble and a triplet of notes (5, 3, 2) in the bass. The dynamic marking *pp* is present.

28

pp sostenuto

sf

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 28, 29, and 30. Measure 28 has a treble clef with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. Measure 29 continues the melodic line with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. Measure 30 features a treble clef with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. The dynamic marking *pp sostenuto* is present in measure 28, and *sf* is present in measure 30.

31

dim.

pp

dim.

5 1 2 1

3

3

1 2 5

Detailed description: This system contains measures 31, 32, and 33. Measure 31 has a treble clef with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. Measure 32 continues the melodic line with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. Measure 33 features a treble clef with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. The dynamic marking *dim.* is present in measure 31, and *pp* is present in measure 32.

34

3

3

3

3

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 34, 35, and 36. Measure 34 has a treble clef with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. Measure 35 continues the melodic line with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. Measure 36 features a treble clef with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a triplet of notes (3) in the bass. The dynamic marking *pp* is present in measure 34.

37

mp
L.H. *poco cresc.*

40

pp
sf *pp*
smorz. poco a poco

rit. sempre

43

46

pp
rall.
ppp
ppp
ppp
ppp