

Louis Moreau GOTTSCHALK (1829-1869)

ADVANCED

The Dying Poet op 110

Gottschalk's compositions stand out as something spicy in the mostly bland dish that was American music in the mid 19th century. It has a touch of ragtime, a dollop of the West Indies, a hint of Latin and a splash of Chopin. Gottschalk, a sophisticated virtuoso, was a showman and well understood that his audiences were suckers for sentimentality – as this piece from 1863 makes abundantly clear.

Playing tips: This is a long piece, so learn it in sections. It's easy to see where the sections begin and end. The first three pages are in the same style, with a totally new section requiring new techniques at bar 64. In the

first section, start by practising the LH on its own, very slowly, so that you get familiar with the leap from the bass note to the two chords. In the second section (from bar 64), the RH has repeated semiquaver notes. Keep the wrist relaxed – think of a bouncing ball. The third section (from bar 80) is a combination of the two previous sections (LH is similar to first section; RH similar to the second). This piece is incredibly romantic, a joy to play and easier to learn than it may seem at first! *Pedal tips:* Follow the markings in the score. As you move through the piece, where the notation becomes more dense, you will find half-pedalling will help.

Andante

5 3 2 1 1 5 3

p

Ped.

4

rapido

brillante

8va

Andante moderato

7

p

molto legato

L.H. *p*

R.H. *ben cantato*

p

sim.

12

R.H.

poco rit.

L.H.

17

Musical score for measures 17-20. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the treble clef is marked with a slur and a fermata over the final note. The bass clef staff features a steady accompaniment of chords and eighth notes.

21

Musical score for measures 21-24. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats. The melody in the treble clef is marked with a slur and a fermata over the final note. The bass clef staff features a steady accompaniment of chords and eighth notes.

25

Musical score for measures 25-28. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats. The melody in the treble clef is marked with a slur and a fermata over the final note. The bass clef staff features a steady accompaniment of chords and eighth notes. The instruction *p dolce* is written in the left margin. The word *grazioso* is written above the treble staff in measure 27. Fingering numbers 1, 1, and 5 are written above the treble staff in measure 27.

29

Musical score for measures 29-31. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats. The melody in the treble clef is marked with a slur and a fermata over the final note. The bass clef staff features a steady accompaniment of chords and eighth notes.

32

Musical score for measures 32-35. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats. The melody in the treble clef is marked with a slur and a fermata over the final note. The bass clef staff features a steady accompaniment of chords and eighth notes.

35

40

marcato il canto

45

celeste

p

una corda

50

Sva

cresc.

f

55

dolce

60

60 *cresc.*

Measures 60-63: Treble clef contains a melodic line with dotted rhythms and eighth notes. Bass clef contains a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with chords. A dashed line with the word "cresc." spans across the measures.

64

64 *f*

Measures 64-66: Treble clef features a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by eighth-note chords. Bass clef has a melodic line with eighth notes and chords. A dynamic marking "f" is present.

67

67 *agitato*

Measures 67-69: Treble clef has eighth-note chords with a triplet in the third measure. Bass clef has a melodic line with eighth notes and chords. A dynamic marking "agitato" is present.

70

70

Measures 70-72: Treble clef has eighth-note chords with a triplet in the second measure. Bass clef has a melodic line with eighth notes and chords. A dynamic marking "f" is present.

73

73

Measures 73-75: Treble clef has a melodic line with eighth notes. Bass clef has a melodic line with eighth notes and chords. A dynamic marking "f" is present.

76

pp

79

poco rall. a tempo
very even

4 1 4 2 4 2 5 2 4 1

p

5 5 5 5

una corda

82

4 2 2 1 5 2 3 2 8^{va} 5 2 3 2 4 2 3 2

85

(8)

5 2 4 1 5 2 4 1 3 2 loco

88

5 4 2 4 2 5 2 4 2

p dolce

91

4 1 3 2 3 1 2 1 4 2

94

un poco rit.

97

100

8va

103

(8)

106 (8)

cresc. poco a poco

109 (8)

(cresc. poco a poco)

f

112 (8)

ff con passione

115 (8)

p

118

pp

8va

121 (8) **rall.**

celeste

124 (8) **Lento**

p marcato il canto

127 (8)

130 (8)

133 (8) **rallentando molto**

dying away pp