

Jeffrey Plett

Nocturne in Solitude

for piano four hands

Nocturne in Solitude represents the value of two people coming together to create something greater than their individual selves. It plays on some expectations of the nocturne genre while offering a connection to the mood of nighttime in four affects: *Solace*, *Elation*, *Valor*, and *Fragility*.

In *Solace*, contrary to what popular adages suggest, being able to love oneself is not a prerequisite for being worthy of love. The two piano parts here converge in agreement with each other.

Elation makes excessive use of diatonic sixths, a “beautiful” pitch interval. This attempts to show the beauty that two people can bring out in each other.

Valor represents the courage and honor of taking action towards relationships, especially in the face of rejection. This manifests as bright melodies over syncopated rhythms, full textures and dynamics, and the heroic “vi-IV-I-V” chord progression.

Fragility shows how precious certain moments with certain people can be, with its minimal texture. These moments are short-lived, yet shall forever inspire us as the gilded memories they have become. Jeffrey could not have written this piece without the loving support of the late Dr. Carolyn Bremer.

Duration: 9 minutes



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♩=66
accel. **a Tempo, accel.** **a Tempo,**

Piano 1

f

8^{va}

8^{va}

Piano 2

♩=66
accel. **a Tempo, accel.** **a Tempo,**

f

Hold down pedal until "Solace"

accel. **simile**

5

8^{va}

8^{va}

accel. **simile**

8^{vb}

9

15^{ma} 8^{va}-1

8^{vb}

12

15^{ma} 8^{va}-1

15^{ma} 8^{va}

8^{vb}

8^{vb}

"Solace"

16 ♩=80 *molto rubato*

mp

mp

Pedal heavily until measure 100

20

Musical score for measures 20-23. The system consists of four staves. The top two staves are in treble clef, and the bottom two are in bass clef. Measures 20 and 21 show a rest in the upper staves and a whole note chord in the lower staves. Measures 22 and 23 feature a complex texture with sixteenth-note runs in the upper staves and eighth-note patterns in the lower staves.

24

Musical score for measures 24-27. The system consists of four staves. Measures 24 and 25 show a rest in the upper staves and a whole note chord in the lower staves. Measures 26 and 27 feature a complex texture with sixteenth-note runs in the upper staves and eighth-note patterns in the lower staves.

28

Musical score for measures 28-31. The system consists of four staves. Measures 28 and 29 show a rest in the upper staves and a whole note chord in the lower staves. Measures 30 and 31 feature a complex texture with sixteenth-note runs in the upper staves and eighth-note patterns in the lower staves. The dynamic marking *mf* is present in the first measure of this system.

30 *8va* 7

32 *p*

34 *f*

37 *molto rit.* *mf* *8va* "Elation" $\text{♩} = 92$ *dolce*

41 *mp* *8va*

45 *mp* *8va*

48 (8)

f *p*

f *p*

53 (8)

15^{ma}

mf

mf

58 (15)

mf

mf

63 (15)

Musical score for measures 63-72. The score is written for piano with four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first system (measures 63-67) features complex chordal textures in the upper staves and a melodic line in the lower staves. A dynamic marking of *p* (piano) is present in the second measure of the first system. The second system (measures 68-72) continues the texture, with a crescendo leading to a *p* marking in the final measure.

68 (15)

Musical score for measures 68-72. The score is written for piano with four staves. The key signature has one flat. The first system (measures 68-72) shows a dynamic shift from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *f* (forte). The second system (measures 73-77) continues with the *f* dynamic, featuring a melodic line in the upper staves and a bass line in the lower staves.

73 (15)

Musical score for measures 73-87. The score is written for piano with four staves. The key signature has one flat. The first system (measures 73-77) features a melodic line in the upper staves and a bass line in the lower staves. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present in the first measure. The second system (measures 78-82) continues the texture. The third system (measures 83-87) includes a *Sva-* (Sustained) marking above the staff, indicating a long note or sustained chord.

76 (8) | 15^{ma} | //

p

p

96

p

p

3 3

99

with drive

ff

with drive

ff

102

p

Pedal. ^

8vb
Pedal lightly

(8)

105

108

111

114 *8va*

Musical score for measures 114-116. The piece is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. Measure 114 features a complex piano accompaniment with sixteenth-note patterns in both hands. Measures 115 and 116 show a melodic line in the right hand with accents and a steady bass line in the left hand. The dynamic marking *p* (piano) is present in measures 115 and 116. The time signature changes to 3/4 in measure 115 and returns to 4/4 in measure 116. A dashed line labeled *8va* is positioned above the staff.

117 ⁽⁸⁾

Musical score for measures 117-120. The piece continues in the same key and time signature. Measure 117 has a melodic line in the right hand with accents and a bass line in the left hand. Measures 118 and 119 show a melodic line in the right hand with accents and a bass line in the left hand. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present in measures 118 and 119. The time signature changes to 3/4 in measure 118 and returns to 4/4 in measure 119. A circled number 8 is above the first measure.

121 ⁽⁸⁾

Musical score for measures 121-124. The piece continues in the same key and time signature. Measure 121 has a melodic line in the right hand with accents and a bass line in the left hand. Measures 122 and 123 show a melodic line in the right hand with accents and a bass line in the left hand. The dynamic marking *f* (forte) is present in measures 122 and 123. The time signature changes to 3/4 in measure 122 and returns to 4/4 in measure 123. A circled number 8 is above the first measure.

125 ⁸

mf

129 Pedal with harmony

f

133

137 *mf* *8va*

141 (8)

145 (8) *f* *15ma*

Pedal lightly until "Fragility"

148 (15)

Musical score for measures 148-150. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats. It features a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The right hand has a steady eighth-note pattern, while the left hand has a more complex rhythmic pattern with some rests. There are dynamic markings like 'f' and 'ff' and various articulation marks like accents and slurs.

151

Musical score for measures 151-153. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats. It features a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The right hand has a steady eighth-note pattern, while the left hand has a more complex rhythmic pattern with some rests. There are dynamic markings like 'f' and 'ff' and various articulation marks like accents and slurs.

154

Musical score for measures 154-156. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats. It features a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The right hand has a steady eighth-note pattern, while the left hand has a more complex rhythmic pattern with some rests. There are dynamic markings like 'ff' and '8va' and '8vb' and various articulation marks like accents and slurs.

157

⑧

161

⑧

164

⑧

167

8

"Fragility"

170

dolcissimo

ppp

p

ppp

8va

$\text{♩} = 66$

$\text{♩} = 66$

8

Pedal heavily

175

dolcissimo

p

8

181 (8) 15^{ma} 8^{va} mp mp

187 (15) 8^{va} freely mf

193 8^{va} mp mf p =52

(8)

199

8va

(8)

205

15ma

mp

(15)

211

mf

8va

p

mf

216

pp

223

15^{ma}

pp

♩=52
rit. a Tempo

8^{va}

228

p *mp*

♩=52
rit. a Tempo

p *mp*