



# Inspiring Artistry Repertoire Project

A Piano Magazine subscriber-exclusive digital resource

**Christina Lai presents:**

**“Aubade” from *Scènes enfantines*, Op. 92 by Mélanie Bonis**

## Preparation and Presentation

**Context:** pieces that are helpful to have experienced or played before approaching this one

- Gurlitt: “A Little Flower,” Op. 205, No. 11
- Burgmüller: “The Clear Stream,” Op. 100, No. 7
- J.S. Bach: Polonaise in G Minor, Anh. 119

**Get Ready:** creative activities to explore before the first encounter with the score to prepare a student for deeper engagement and more immediate success

- Listen to bird calls.
- Engage in story telling and theatrical activities.
- Sing with different voice timbres (low versus high).

**Initial Focus:** features to pay attention to first; priority steps in reading and absorbing the music

- Sing the melodic lines.
- Tap the recurring rhythmic pattern that begins in the first two measures of the pieces.

**Coordination Essentials:** physical skills and drills for common technical challenges in the piece

- Practice scales with a focus on finger legato, listening carefully for a smooth sound between the notes.
- Work on voicing and balance (bringing out one hand or one line, then switching).
- Explore the softest dynamic range of the instrument.

**Expressivity:** ideas to connect with the expressive and musical nature of the piece

- Sing the dialogue between the characters.
- Play with different ways of manipulating time and rubato.
- Listen for the harmonic progressions (tension versus relaxation).

**Look Forward:** approaches to set up for success with refinements that will need attention a few weeks down the road

- Work hands separately, with a focus on creating singing melodic lines.
- Work hands separately, with a focus on finding the lilting quality of the accompaniment pattern.
- Analyze the harmonies for memorization and interpretation.