



Inspiring Artistry Repertoire Project

A Piano Magazine subscriber-exclusive digital resource

Cole Burger Presents:

Little Melody in E-flat by Florence Price

Preparation and Presentation

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

- Florence Price: #5 from *6 Pieces for Piano*
- William Gillock: "Soaring in E-flat major" from *Lyric Preludes*
- Edward MacDowell: *To A Wild Rose*, op. 51, no. 1
- Enrique Granados: *Dedication*, op. 1, no. 1
- Artina McCain: any of the African American Spiritual arrangements

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

- Learn more about Price in the *Oxford Dictionary of Music* or in *Heart of a Woman: The Life and Music of Florence B. Price* by Rae Linda Brown
- Watch a black and white movie (not a comedy!) to connect with the theme of nostalgia and the time period when Price wrote this piece
- Improvise legato melodies in E-flat major with repeated notes

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

- A A' B A'' Form
- Harmony – play a I-iv-I-V7-I cadence. What note makes it iv instead of IV? How does that change the mood?

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

- Melody and accompaniment in the RH
- RH expressive 2-note slurs
- LH chromatic scale

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

- Discuss nostalgia and how to make music sound nostalgic.
- How is the register, harmony, and mood different in the B section?

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

- Work on the B section (mm. 18-25).
- Finger substitutions in LH m. 13 and RH m. 32.