



# Inspiring Artistry Repertoire Project

*A Piano Magazine subscriber-exclusive digital resource*

## **Christopher Norton presents: Fantasy Bossa from Connections 7 by Christopher Norton**

### **Preparation and Presentation**

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

- Merida, Sultry Night, Warm Breeze from MicroLatin (Norton)
- Bossa Nova, Bossa Nova II, Pop Bossa from the Latin Preludes Collection (Norton)
- Cuban Romance from Connections 8 (Norton)
- Bossa Nova from Latin Duets (Norton)

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

- Tap this 8th note pattern, accenting the numbers in bold: ONE two three **FOUR** five six **SEVEN** eight
- Find bossa nova rhythms on keyboard or online-count aloud while listening

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

- Check the range of dynamics - the loudest moment and the quietest.
- Look at the right hand phrase lengths.
- Check position changes.
- Check where there are slow downs (rits)
- Play the bossa nova left hand pattern as well as the melody (try 4 bars at a time, not necessarily up to speed)

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

- Play legato in your right hand and shape each individual phrase.

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

- Play some of the chords - eg (from bottom to top) Fmaj7 - F, A, C, E and Bbmaj7 - F, A, Bb, D
- See which chords are outlined by the melody at various places.