

# Foreword

Most every young pianist begins his/her training with Classical studies. Development of proper technique cannot be over-emphasized. This development is aided by utilizing the existing works of many great composers. In order to express themselves musically, young pianists must be guided through hours of repetitive study to develop correct hand positioning and proper phrasing. As the serious piano student progresses, it is quite normal that they seek other challenging styles with which to experiment. There is certainly an abundance of Classical and Jazz literature to keep studies interesting, but few publications strive to blend the two. When experimenting with a new style, the student usually faces a learning curve. The young musician must now step back and listen, to appreciate the usefulness of the scales and arpeggios that he/she has played for so long.

Classics to Jazz allows the serious student to make a smooth transition from Classical to Jazz study. Each piece has been written in standard notation, as close to the original piece as the Masters would have played. We then embellished the Classics to a "point of no return", which would make the great Jazz pianists proud. This book is certainly not meant for the unprepared musician. The text pushes the dedicated student to the edge, encouraging him/her to advance with every page-turn.

The whole approach abolishes the barrier that has separated the two genres since the beginning. Many educators are fearful that expansion into Jazz studies translates into abandonment of the students' Classical background and technique. On the contrary, this book emphasizes the importance of Classical literature by displaying the original piece, followed by the Jazz arrangement. This allows the student to concentrate his/her efforts on the Classical piece prior to attempting the Jazz arrangement. Only after successful completion of the Classical piece should the student advance to the challenging Jazz Piano version. Educators will praise the approach and adore the results. If, by hard work and practice, a young pianist can play through Classics to Jazz, he/she would certainly surpass his/her peers' abilities.

Currently available in five editions, the Classics to Jazz series is just getting started. Jazz Bach, Jazz Czerny, Jazz Hanon and Jazz Mozart are sold separately, but a sampling of each can be found in our Jazz Highlights edition. The featured composers were not chosen in any specific order and therefore can be studied in any order desired. We feel that each composer is as important as the next; each having his own set of strengths and weaknesses which make him unique. From Bach, the Father of Classical Music, to Czerny, the Master of Characteristic study, to Hanon, the creator of the bible text for piano technique, these books will be important texts for every serious student. This is just the beginning of a series that will be praised and reveled by all.

# Contents

Minuet.....	1
Jazz Minuet .....	3
Presto .....	7
Jazz Presto.....	9
Minuet .....	11
Jazz Minuet .....	13
Andante .....	15
Jazz Andante.....	17
Sonata in C .....	21
Jazz Sonata.....	29
Minuet.....	33
Jazz Minuet .....	35
Larghetto .....	37
Jazz Larghetto .....	39
Minuet.....	41
Jazz Minuet .....	43