

Berceuse No.1

Joseph A. Mann

Sustained and free ♩ = 80

Piano

p

Build little by little

12

Top of the crescendo

18

2
24

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24

30

35

36

41

42

Building

46

47

With gentle energy

3

Berceuse No.1

3

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a piano piece. The first system covers measures 52 to 55. The right hand (treble clef) features a series of chords, some with long horizontal lines above them indicating sustained notes. The left hand (bass clef) plays a continuous eighth-note triplet pattern. The second system covers measures 56 to 59. The right hand continues with chords, and the left hand maintains the triplet pattern. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a whole note in the left hand.

To the performer:

Hello, and thank you for choosing to explore my music. First I would like to say that I have never liked setting my notes out on paper, as I find it nearly impossible to convey my music on paper as I would perform it live. To this end, I wish to tell you that what you find here in print is intentionally sparse. I prize improvisation and freedom above all else in music, and the printed version of my pieces are meant only to convey the general idea of the piece, and the harmonic twists and turns that it might make at any given time. It is up to you, my dear fellow musician, to make these lines and dots musical. Play the sections in order, but know that you may if you wish repeat or even improvise on a given section as many times as you choose, provided that the end result is musical and pleasing to you and the audience. I wish the melody to remain intact, but only for the first statement; after that, you may embellish it as you like. The accompaniment I chose fits well I think, but that too, I leave to your better judgement. There are spots which obviously call for dynamic and articulate additions, which any good musician will sense and produce. It is also true that each good musician will perform them differently, and each one will be right; provided that it makes the music beautiful and pleases those who listen. Thank you for listening dear friend, and I hope my music will please you as it has pleased me; is that not after all what music is for?

Sincerely, Joseph Arthur Mann