

# Teaching 20<sup>th</sup> Century Intermediate Repertoire in Irregular Meter and Other Technical Challenges

Jinkyung Kim

DMA Piano Pedagogy Candidate

University of South Carolina

Level appropriate 20<sup>th</sup> Century repertoire dealing with irregular meters provides solutions with other pedagogical benefits. In particular, “Counting” composed by Goolkasian Rahbee features asymmetrical meter and presents students with new metric challenges, which will improve their rhythmic sensitivity and broaden their experience of 20<sup>th</sup> Century repertoire.

## “Counting” Op. 108, No. 6 from *Modern Miniatures*, volume one<sup>1</sup>

for Jonathan Beissinger

### Counting

I-12-123-1234-12345  
Op. 108, No. 6

Dianne Goolkasian Rahbee

Keep a steady pulse

1  
2  
3  
1  
1  
1

*mp* *mp* *mp*

7  
*mp* *ff*

Example 1. Excerpt from “Counting,” mm. 1-11.

<sup>1</sup> Level 4, based on the 10-level system (1-10) by Jane Magrath

Example 2. Excerpt from “Counting,” mm. 29-38.

### Other Pieces

The following is a list of 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Century works which have a variety of levels, characteristics, and features that are pedagogically and musically worthy to explore (along with suggested levels marked with asterisk \*):

- Seymour Bernstein, “The Wood Packer” from *Birds* (level 6)<sup>2</sup>
- Christopher Norton, “Number Crunching” from *Connections for piano, 4* (level 4)<sup>3</sup>
- Christopher Norton, “Leaves Falling” from *Connections for piano, 5* (level 5)<sup>4</sup>
- Kevin Olson, “Seven of hearts” (level 8) \*
- Kelvin Olson, “Trial Ceremony” from *Outside in the Box* (level 4) \*
- Nancy Telfer, “When the Planets are Aligned” from *Planets and Stars* (level 4) \*
- Robert Starer, “Aquamarine” from *Sketches in Color, Set Two* (level 7-8)<sup>5</sup>
- Wynn-Anne Rossi, “Puffin Hat Dance” from *An Alaskan Tour* (level 7)

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<sup>2</sup> Magrath, *The Pianist’s Guide*.

<sup>3</sup> Norton, Christopher. *Connections 4*.

<sup>4</sup> Norton, Christopher. *Connections 5*.

<sup>5</sup> Magrath, *The Pianist’s Guide*.

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