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Metro Morning	Vince Gassi	2
Jubilation!	Michael Kamuf	4
A Simple Song of Love	Naoya Wada	6
Up in the Sky	Yukiko Nishimura	8
Majestic Celebration	Chris M. Bernotas	10
Mustang Spirit	Scott Watson	12
Tambourine Dance	Carol Brittin Chambers	14
Crowley's Ridge	Randall D. Standridge	16
A Classic Moment	Victor López	18
Mindful Moment	Vince Gassi	20
Apple Honey	Naoya Wada	21
Kilkenny Castle	Michael Kamuf	24
Time Traveler	Erik Morales	26
Lakeside Lullaby	Adrian B. Sims	28
Stopping by Woods		
on a Snowy Evening	Michael Story	30
Dance of the Night	Scott Watson	32
Tarantella	Carol Brittin Chambers	34
Carnival	Michael Story	36
Epilogue	Erik Morales	38

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# **Metro Morning**

### **SOUND ADVICE:**

- Always pay close attention to tempo, dynamics, and articulations as they are critical in helping to make a performance more expressive.
- ▶ Be sure to observe the change of mood at measures 11 and 41. These measures call for a more lyrical interpretation.
- ▶ Although you should attempt to maintain the energy the entire way through, note that the ending (measure 54 to the end) is gradually diminishing in volume.
- ▶ Work with your accompanist. Remember, you are a team!



## **Tambourine Dance**

### **SOUND ADVICE:**

- ▶ Tambourine Dance is a lively piece in 4/4 meter. Staccato notes throughout are to be played lifted and bouncy. Accented notes should be played with more air and slightly stronger tongue.
- ▶ Before playing on your instrument, count each phrase first. It is also very beneficial to practice only the fingerings and air patterns with a metronome before you play. One suggested syllable for the air patterns is *Too*.
- ▶ Pay special attention to placement of slurs and accents. Measures containing accents on an upbeat should be played slowly at first in order to master the coordination between tongue and fingers.



# **Dance of the Night**

#### **SOUND ADVICE:**

- ▶ Dance of the Night portrays a macabre ballet danced by dark, shadowy figures. Their nocturnal motions are at first lilting and tentative, but then grow more and more disturbingly impassioned. The piece is a homage to, and inspired by, Sergei Prokofiev's "Dance of the Knights" from his ballet, Romeo and Juliet. To appreciate the musical connection (mostly in the feel of the accompaniment), seek out a recording of Prokofiev's "Dance of the Knights."
- ▶ The main theme occurs at three places throughout: at measures 5, 26, and 78. In each successive occurrence, the melody becomes more expressive through increased dynamics and rhythmic variation. Be sure to emphasize these items to highlight the transformation.
- ▶ In this 6/8 piece, a strong beat should be felt on beats 1 and 4 of each measure (which is emphasized in the piano accompaniment). Nonetheless, players should always be aware of the eighth-note subdivision (1-2-3, 4-5-6), especially during the many tied notes.

