

# Five Preludes

for piano solo

Richard Whalley

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for piano solo

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## Programme note

*Masquing the Medusa* is a tribute to my friend and colleague John Casken, and was composed for a concert celebrating his work at Manchester University in January 2008. This short prelude pays homage to him by taking ingredients from two of his compositions and putting them together in my own way. The notes of the melody are taken from the oboe part of *Masque* and the accompaniment figure stems from a prominent figure in the piano part of *Blue Medusa*.

The remaining preludes were composed during the spring of 2009, born from a feeling that *Masquing the Medusa* needs to be part of something bigger. For me there's something very tantalizing about miniatures, each offering glimpse of a different world. I think of these as preludes in the Debussian sense; he deliberately placed the titles of each his preludes at the end of the music, so that people would be free to revel in their own associations and imagery, and not be too influenced by his titles. My titles were thought up after composition of the preludes, so I would encourage performers and listeners to do the same here.

**Total duration: c. 12 mins**

# Two Lines, Transcended

Richard Whalley

With a clear sense of line and forward momentum, ♩ = 108

Piano solo

near  
*p*  
distant  
*pp* "Fingerpedal" within slurs (as shown below)  
etc.

8  
2 3 2 3

15  
1 3 3  
3 3

21  
3 2 3 3 3 3 3  
*meno p* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3  
*p*

28  
3 3 3 3 3 3 3  
8va  
3 3 3 3 3 3 3

34

39 *Rhythmic*  
*mfp*

normal legato:  
no more fingerpedal

43 *poco a poco cresc.*  
sempre legato

Rushing slightly

Rushing more noticeably

46 *f* *ff* *dim.*

(Ped.)

Poco rit.

A tempo; slightly held back

49 *ff* *mf* *p*

almost legato legato

loco

More held back

52 *più p* *pp*

# A Butterfly Flaps Its Wings

Richard Whalley

Fast ♩=132+

Piano solo *pp legato*

with *Ped.*

4

*poch. cresc.*

slow release of *Ped.*

Slower, with rubato, pushing forwards

8

*p always legato*

\* without *Ped.*

10

*mf*

*espress.*

*p*

**Subito Tempo I**

*pp*

(with *Ped.*)

12

*p*

15

(9)

(*Ped.*)

\*

19 (9)

(Led.) \* p

23

(Led.)

27

mf meno p (Led.)

31

(Led.)

35

f f (Led.) \*

39 As before

p crescendo

f f

Tempo I ; bring out rising lines

36 *mf*

39

42 *f* non legato

44 *ff* legato

46

49

*f* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *più cresc.*

52

*ff* *sfz* *sfz*

As before

54

*p poco a poco crescendo*

55

(Pressing forwards)

56

(Not too slow)

*ff* *sfz*

Middle Ped →

Tempo I

58

*p*  
*mf*  
M.P.

61

(L.H.) *sfz*  
*pp*  
*più p*  
M.P.

64

*sfz* *sfz*  
*p* (R.H.) *pp*  
M.P.

67

*sfz*  
R.H.  
M.P.

71

(senza rit.) *sfz* *sempre f* R.H.  
*diminuendo*  
M.P.

76

*pp* *ff*  
M.P.

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