Reference Guide to Contemporary Pedagogical Piano Literature

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Project Overview

- Organization of UW-Eau Claire’s Piano Pedagogy Library, with the main focus of building repertoire by contemporary pedagogical composers.
- During this process, we felt there was a need to present these works in a manner that was easy to digest, providing concise information regarding level, style and technical demands.
- Modeling our project off of a pre-existing model, Jane Magrath’s Guide to Standard Piano Literature, we set out to compile a reference guide for these works.
- We developed a 2-3 sentence standard format of describing the main aspects of each piece, using terminology familiar to piano teachers.
- **Example Piece Description:** Valerie Roth Roubos: Notturno
  This very expressive piece allows the student to work on a soaring right-hand melody over thirds in the left hand. There is some scalar work, descending triplets, and hand-over-hand crossing passages. Dramatic middle part with a trill leading into a fermata. Level 5.

Piano Pedagogy Library

The funding from this summer research also allowed us to expand our Piano Pedagogy Library. In addition, we have built our library from personal donations. It includes a variety of method books, works from the traditional canon, and a growing collection of contemporary works. It is currently available to piano pedagogy students, and gives us the opportunity to test drive books before bringing them into lessons. We are working on a checkout system for the books, as well as a way to allow the community music teachers group, CVMTA to have access to this library.

Composers

- Dennis Alexander
- Lera Auerbach
- Timothy Brown
- Bruce Berr
- Kevin Costley
- Carol Klose
- Emma Lou Diemer
- William Gillock
- Christopher Goldston
- David Karp
- Mary Leaf
- Jennifer Linn
- Kevin Olson
- Mona Rejino
- Christos Tsitsaros

Collections

- In Recital throughout the Year Volumes 1 and 2
- In Recital for the Advancing Pianist
- Composer Showcase: Hal Leonard

WMTA Conference

In October 2015, we presented our research in a poster session at the Wisconsin Music Teachers Association State Conference, in Sheboygan, Wi.

Looking Ahead

- Expanding the practical implications for our reference guide
- Sharing the reference guide with community area piano teachers
- Broadening the number of composers represented
- There is a wealth of new pedagogical compositions being written today
- We are considering an online version of our reference guide in order to keep up with the repertoire being composed, and engage with the community of piano teachers