

# Chicago Suite

*for solo piano*

Tray Guess

2018

# Performance Notes

This piece was inspired by various works of art, most of which I saw during a trip to the Art Institute of Chicago in 2018. There are three movements, each corresponding to a different work. First is the acrylic painting *Mr. Pointy* (2011), by Japanese artist Takashi Murakami. It's followed by *God Knows Why* (2005), a grotesque sculpture which contains two dead lambs suspended in formaldehyde. The final movement is inspired by *City Landscape* (1955), an abstract expressionist work painted by the late Joan Mitchell. Each movement is my musical interpretation of the physical painting or sculpture.

All tempi in this piece are more or less approximate and open to interpretation from the performer. They serve as guidelines, but they are not intended to restrict the expressive desires of the performer. However, in the third movement the tempo should remain strictly constant, with no rubato or other fluctuations. Additionally, fingerings are notated as guidelines - the performer may choose to adjust or ignore them as they see fit.

One area of note is the final bar of the second movement. Here, notes are to be depressed silently with the right hand. This creates sympathetic vibrations with the left hand notes so that when they are released a ghostly ringing continues through the piano.

*-T.G.*

# Mr. Pointy

Takashi Murakami

Driving ♩ = 74-76

Piano

*mp*

Pno

3

Pno

6

Pno

8

11 Pno *mf*

Musical score for measures 11-12. The right hand features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The left hand consists of chords and eighth notes. Dynamics include *mf* and accents.

13 Pno *mp*

Musical score for measures 13-14. Similar to the previous system, but with a crescendo leading to *mp*.

15 Pno *f* *mp cresc. ....*

Musical score for measures 15-16. Features a dynamic change from *f* to *mp cresc. ....* and a change in the right hand pattern.

19 Pno

Musical score for measures 19-20. The right hand has eighth notes, and the left hand is mostly rests.

21 Pno *mf*

Musical score for measures 21-22. Similar to the first system, with *mf* dynamics.

24

Pno

27

Pno

30

Pno

32

Pno

35

Pno

39

Pno

*mf* *ff*

42

Pno

*p sub.*

**Dolce**

*p sub.*

**Dolce**

con ped. sempre

47

Pno

accents

52

Pno

accents

57

Pno

accents

# God Knows Why

Damien Hirst

Grave (♩ = 50)

Piano

*f* freely *f*<sub>sub.</sub>

*p* *Red.*

*poco rit.*.....

5

*p* *f* *p* *p*

*Red.*

..... ♩ = c. 44

9

*(p)* *f* *p*

*Red.*

13

*p* *p*

Pno

# City Landscape

Joan Mitchell

Moto perpetuo ♩ = 128-136

Piano

*mf*

The first system of music is for Piano. It consists of two staves. The right staff is mostly empty with a few notes in the first measure. The left staff features a continuous eighth-note melody starting on G4, moving up stepwise to D5, with a slur under the first three measures. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

Pno

4

The second system of music is for Piano. It consists of two staves. The right staff has a few notes in the first measure. The left staff continues the eighth-note melody from the first system, with a slur under the first three measures. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

Pno

7

The third system of music is for Piano. It consists of two staves. The right staff has a few notes in the first measure. The left staff continues the eighth-note melody from the first system, with a slur under the first three measures. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

Pno

10

The fourth system of music is for Piano. It consists of two staves. The right staff has a few notes in the first measure. The left staff continues the eighth-note melody from the first system, with a slur under the first three measures. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.



13

Pno

16

Pno

19

Pno

22

Pno

A

25

Pno

Piano score for measures 28-30. Measure 28 is marked with a circled 8. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and a flat sign. The left hand provides a bass line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure.

Piano score for measures 31-33. Measure 31 is marked with a circled 8. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and flats. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure.

Piano score for measures 34-36. Measure 34 is marked with a circled 8. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure.

Piano score for measures 37-38. Measure 37 is marked with a circled 8. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure.

Piano score for measures 39-40. Measure 39 is marked with a circled 8. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and a fermata over the final measure.