

PAINTED FLOWERS

Holistic Lesson Plan

Painted Flowers is the first piece in Level 8, a level that introduces 5th, 7th and 9th position reading. This piece uses 5th position to create three distinct textures; a sparsely somber introduction, a resilient main theme, and a driving 8th note climax.

Painted Flowers is dedicated to Joanne Swasey; a teacher, grandmother, and avid China painter. She is loved and missed.

Artistry

- Perform the piece with intentional contrast and flow between the different sections.
- Perform the piece with a clear sense of balance both between and within parts, following the dynamic markings in the score. Shape each crescendo and decrescendo with care and musicality.
- Perform the piece with precise vertical alignment and togetherness among the ensemble.

Technique

- Utilize all skills from levels 1-4.
- Establish a new left-hand position (5th) using a 'one finger per fret' approach.

Literacy

- Read and perform note values: eighth, quarter, half, whole.
- Read and perform notes on all six strings within the first eight frets.

Recommended Broad Sequence:

- 1) Use the literacy sequence to introduce familiar notes in new locations and new notes in 5th position (exercises 1-2). Don't spend too much time on reading at first, fluency will be established with repetition.
- 2) Start with the guitar 2 part in mm. 17-20. It's included in the literacy sequence so all students can learn it. It's in first position and should be comfortable for all to read. This forms the rhythmic backbone of the main section.
- 3) Add in the guitar 1 and 3 parts in mm. 17-20. focusing on the 5th position notes in the guitar 1 part.
- 4) Continue with mm. 21-24 with an awareness of the position change in guitar 1, and the role/register changes in all parts.
- 5) m. 25 marks a texture change, and the start of a long 8th note section. Work carefully to craft not only the dynamics of the 4 measure phrases, but also with an intention for the overall crescendo that climaxes in m. 37.

- 6) The 'somber' sections that bookend this piece can be explored last. The 5th string open A's in the guitar 3 part should ring out underneath the 5th position fretted notes.

Opportunities for Social Emotional Learning

Painted Flowers was inspired by a China painter, a craft that is extremely detailed and delicate. Being a painter requires vision, calmness and patience. Explore how our interest in the arts can shape our identities themselves.

What are the qualities that musicians need to be successful artists and collaborators? Are we always aware that we're developing those skills? How has music shaped your students identities?

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Literacy Sequence

5th Position - Fret 5 - 1st Finger | Fret 6 - 2nd | Fret 7 - 3rd | Fret 8 - 4th

1 Same Notes - New Locations

2 New Notes

3 C Major Scale - Closed 5th Position

4 Reading Practice - 1st 3 Strings

5 Painted Flowers - Main Theme

6 Painted Flowers - Syncopated Excerpt with Beat Counting

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Score

Phil Swasey

Somber $\text{♩} = 65$

Guitar 1 Level 8
Guitar 2 Level 8
Guitar 3 Level 8

Resilient $\text{♩} = 80$

G1
G2
G3

13

G1

G2

G3

mp

mp

Detailed description: This system covers measures 13 to 18. The G1 staff features a melodic line with slurs and accents, starting with a measure rest. The G2 staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes. The G3 staff has a bass line with slurs and accents. Dynamics include *mp* and *V*⁴.

19

G1

G2

G3

mf

mf

mf

Detailed description: This system covers measures 19 to 24. The G1 staff features a melodic line with slurs and accents, starting with a measure rest. The G2 staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes. The G3 staff has a bass line with slurs and accents. Dynamics include *mf* and *V*⁴.

25

G1

G2

G3

p

mf

mf

p

mf

Detailed description: This system covers measures 25 to 30. The G1 staff features a melodic line with slurs and accents, starting with a measure rest. The G2 staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes. The G3 staff has a bass line with slurs and accents. Dynamics include *p* and *mf*.

31

G1

G2

G3

f

f

f

37

G1

G2

G3

ff

ff

ff

mf

mf

mf

Somber ♩ = 65

rit.

44

G1

G2

G3

p

p

p

rit.