

1001 Arabian Nights

For the Piano

by

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About the Music


The 1992 Wisconsin state junior division winner of the MTNA-CPP/Belwin student composition contest, *1001 Arabian Nights* is a programmatic work based on the story by the same name. Here is the description that accompanied my original score:


This composition is a classical musical interpretation of the tales of 1001 Arabian Nights. It is the story of a cruel Sultan who invited one of his many wives to his tent each night and had her beheaded the next morning. When it was lovely Scheherazade's turn to visit the tent, she began to tell the Sultan fascinating tales of adventure. At evening's end, she cleverly left the last one unfinished. Wanting to hear the end of the tale, the Sultan allowed Scheherazade to live another night. She entertained him in this manner for 1001 nights, and in the end, the Sultan allowed her to live.

Changes from the Original Version



Measures 34-37 were originally identical to 30-33. I have varied the repeat in an attempt to make this rather weak section more interesting.



Ornamentation Legend


Slurred grace notes () are to be played *before* the beat.

Grace notes without a slur () are to be played starting *on* the beat (except for trill tails).

For this rule, only take into account slurs directly connected to the grace note(s) (e.g., ignore phrasing slurs, etc.). This slur rule applies to grace notes on trills as well. For example:

 = a three-note trill beginning on the principal note, which would be played: 

 = a four-note trill beginning on the upper auxiliary, which would be played: 

 = hold the auxiliary note briefly before proceeding with the rest of the trill: 