

# Night At the Red Cat

Piano, 4 hands

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Elizabeth Alexander

*Seafarer Press*

for Simon

# Night at the Red Cat

Elizabeth Alexander

(♩ = 92) with exuberant energy

The musical score is written for two pianos, labeled I and II. It is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 92, with the instruction "with exuberant energy". The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number (1, 5, 9, 13) at the beginning of the first staff. The first system (measures 1-4) features a piano I part with a melodic line of eighth notes and a piano II part with a bass line of eighth notes. The second system (measures 5-8) continues this pattern. The third system (measures 9-12) introduces a change in the piano I part, with some notes marked with accents. The fourth system (measures 13-16) concludes with a change in dynamics to *mf* and a marking of *legato, cantabile* for the piano I part. The piano II part in the fourth system features a more complex bass line with some chords and a final melodic phrase.

17

I

II

*mp*

21

I

II

*mp*

25

I

II

*mp*

29

I

II

*cantabile*

*f*

*mp*

Opal Palmer Adisa, poet ◦ Margaret & George Alexander, parents ◦ Yehuda Amichai, poet ◦ Bjorn Arneson, generous web designer ◦ Scott Bates, poet ◦ Abbie Betinis, composer/colleague ◦ Dennis Blubaugh, music dealer ◦ Michael deVernon Boblett, poet ◦ Ray Bradbury, writer ◦ Norbert Capek, visionary ◦ e. e. cummings, poet ◦ Philip Dacey, poet ◦ Emily Dickinson, poet ◦ Evelyn Dudley, poet ◦ Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister/writer ◦ Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer ◦ Richard M. Fewkes, writer ◦ Peshah Gertler, poet ◦ Richard S. Gilbert, minister/writer ◦ Jack Gallagher, composer/teacher ◦ Paul Gerike, proofreader ◦ Steve Harper, technical advisor ◦ Steve Hawkins, generous web designer ◦ Edie Hill, composer/colleague ◦ Langston Hughes, poet ◦ Mark Humphrey, piano technician ◦ Karel Husa, composer/teacher ◦ Kalidasa, poet ◦ Garrison Keillor, storyteller ◦ Denise Levertov, poet ◦ George Ella Lyon, poet ◦ Jonathan Machen, artist ◦ Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet ◦ J. David Moore, composer/colleague ◦ Joan Wolf Prefontaine, poet ◦ Gerald Rich, poet ◦ Carl Sandburg, poet ◦ King Sigismund III, religious reformer ◦ Steven Stucky, composer/teacher ◦ Rabindranath Tagore, poet ◦ Howard Thurman, civil rights leader/writer ◦ John Greenleaf Whittier, poet ◦ Theodore Tilton, pianist/teacher ◦ Daniel Winter, pianist/teacher ◦ Nancy Wood, poet ◦ Yehudi Wyner, composer/teacher ◦ Paul Adams, technical advisor ◦ Opal Palmer Adisa, poet ◦ Margaret & George Alexander, parents ◦ Yehuda Amichai, poet ◦ Bjorn Arneson, generous web designer ◦ Scott Bates, poet ◦ Abbie Betinis, composer/colleague ◦ Dennis Blubaugh, music dealer ◦ Michael deVernon Boblett, poet ◦ Ray Bradbury, writer ◦ Norbert Capek, visionary ◦ e. e. cummings, poet ◦ Philip Dacey, poet ◦ Emily Dickinson, poet ◦ Evelyn Dudley, poet ◦ Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister/writer ◦ Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer ◦ Richard M. Fewkes, writer

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49

I

II

*mp*

53

I

II

PIANO I AD LIB

57

REPEAT AS MANY TIMES AS INSPIRED. PIANO I IMPROVISES ON C BLUES SCALE OR C DORIAN SCALE.

I

II

IF DESIRED, THE PIANO I PLAYER MAY FINISH IMPROVISING, WALK AROUND TO THE BASS PART OF THE PIANO, AND TAKE OVER THE PIANO II PART. THE PIANO II PLAYER MAY THEN PLAY A TREBLE CLEF IMPROVISATION TOO! THE PLAYERS MAY EITHER SWITCH PLACES AGAIN, OR CONCLUDE THE PIECE WHILE PLAYING EACH OTHERS' PARTS.

61

I

II

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7

81

I *ff*

II *ff*

85

I

II

Based on an energetic melodic and rhythmic pattern called a “montuno,” *Night At the Red Cat* offers an introduction to the world of up-tempo Latin jazz. Each piano part has a distinct role: the primo part introduces the montuno, the main theme, and an improvised solo, while the secondo part has the role of “rhythm section.” (Truly adventurous students may wish to switch roles halfway through the piece!)

The Red Cat was an alternative theatre-bar in Portland, Oregon, a longtime entrepreneurial dream of my brother Stephen. The changing economic climate of the Pacific Northwest led to the demise of this courageous venture, but its spirit lives on in this high octane romp!

- E.A.

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