

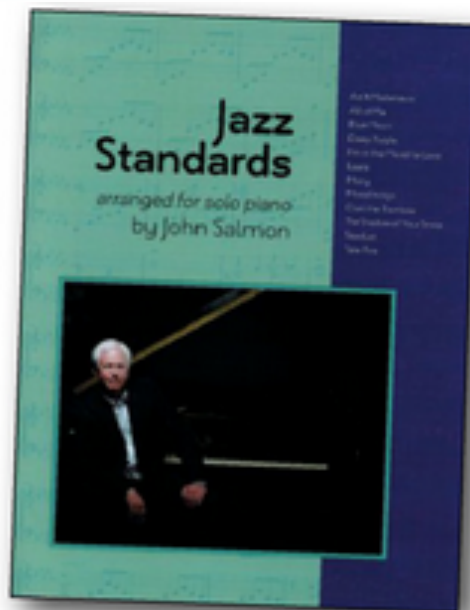
*Jazz Standards arranged for piano solo*, by John Salmon. LyraBabel Music, LLC, 2016. [www.johnsalmon.com](http://www.johnsalmon.com); 38 pp., \$14.99.

Arranging, like composing, is about making choices. Those choices can range from changes in tempo, meter, key, style, and instrumentation,

among other variations, to an original composition. John Salmon's *Jazz Standards arranged for solo piano* is very much about choices. In fact, the 12 standards Salmon includes in this volume are rich in choices for the music teacher and student alike.

Salmon's initial choice is made clear in his preface.

He states: "My arrangements of these twelve standards are intended mainly for classically trained pianists who want to expand their knowledge of jazz and are on the lookout for off-the-beaten path recital repertoire or quirky encores." The pieces he has arranged keep their promise. They include: "Ain't Misbehavin'," "All of Me," "Blue Moon," "Deep Purple," "I'm in the mood for love," "Laura," "Misty" (in two versions: easier and harder), "Mood Indigo," "Over the Rainbow,"



"The Shadow of Your Smile," "Take Five" and "Stardust"—all highly recognizable standards from the Great American Songbook and the Great American Jazz Fake Book.

While the keys range from the simplest C major to E-flat, F, D-flat, A-flat, G, and G-flat and most of the

arrangements are in the standard 4/4 meter, with a few in 5/4, for example, "Take Five," this set of arrangements is for the well-trained student with good sight-reading and technical chops, and the discipline to work through the material. The real meat of this excellent volume are the possibilities Salmon explores in each arrangement, both in the left and right hands with respect to chords, voicings, bass lines and contrapuntal devices—a reflection probably of his own classical training.

*Jazz Standards* is rich in arrangement choices and would serve any student (or professional, for that matter) well. —Reviewed by Eugene Marlow, Baruch College-The City University of New York