

The Cole Porter Mallet Collection

(5 Classics Arranged for Marimba and Vibraphone)

Words and Music by Cole Porter

Arranged by Anders Åstrand

Preface

It has been a very inspiring experience to get to know and arrange the great music of Cole Porter, created in an era when melody, wit, and swing were one. The arrangements are intended primarily for players who may not have had previous experience playing in a style where improvisation is a natural part of the genre. Still, I would like for those who perform these arrangements to feel they are taking part in the elegant style of Cole Porter, but in a contemporary way that fits the mallet instruments well.

About the Arrangements

Anything Goes — While arranging this tune, I pictured an old pianist playing in a stride style. The treatment of the melody can be thought of as a ping-pong game between the instruments. The marimba starts, hands the melody over to the vibraphone (with some added variations), and then is given back to the marimba.

I Love Paris — I began the arranging process by improvising on the verse. I liked what I came up with, and so I felt the need to incorporate it into the arrangement. It sounds really nice on the mallet instruments. This well-known theme has been arranged in a Latin style with some variations. You will also find some funk, as well as a classic touch.

Two Little Babes in the Woods — This waltz is a previously unknown acquaintance, which I'm very happy to have found for this collection. I feel a warm connection with this pretty little waltz. Both the vibes and marimba easily carry this sweet melody and, in my opinion, do it justice.

Love for Sale — For this tune, I decided to go for a slow, Latin-style treatment of the melody which is mostly featured in the vibraphone part. In this arrangement, the marimba takes on the role of the bass player.

Night and Day — This arrangement is all about how to elaborate a one-note theme to create its opposite. While improvising on the theme, I found a rhythmic pattern that became the focus and key to this arrangement.

