

Domenico Scarlatti
Sonata in F Minor
(L. 118/K. 466)

arranged for marimba by Brian Slawson



Sonata in F Minor (L. 118/K. 466) by Domenico Scarlatti, arranged by Brian Slawson
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Program Notes

Domenico Scarlatti, the son of composer Alessandro Scarlatti, was born in 1685, the same year as German Baroque composers J.S. Bach and G.F. Handel. Bach earned his living in Germany while Handel later sought fame and fortune in England. Both were organ virtuosos.

Born in Naples, Scarlatti studied and worked in Italy, later taught music to a princess in Portugal, and spent his last 25 years employed as music master to the Queen of Spain. Spanish dance music like Flamenco had a profound impact on Scarlatti's vocabulary. The fact that he was primarily a harpsichordist suited itself perfectly to the unique rhythmic flavor of Spanish music. As a result, Scarlatti composed 555 charming, one-movement keyboard sonatas unlike anything written by his German contemporaries.

Performance Notes

This particular sonata is one of the mellowest of Scarlatti's entire collection. Try to make the melodic lines in the right hand as legato as possible with plenty of dynamic shape but void of accents. Make the left hand passages equally as smooth and then balance both hands appropriately. Use soft mallets and maintain a delicate, connected approach to achieve the desired ethereal ambiance.

I recommend listening to the performance of this sonata by Vladimir Horowitz on *Horowitz Plays Scarlatti* (CBS Masterworks). This recording is bound to give anyone something to aspire to.

- Brian Slawson

Level: Advanced
Approx. playing time: 4'50"

For Gianna Santucci

Sonata in F Minor

(L. 118/K. 466)

Domenico Scarlatti
arr. Brian Slawson

Andante moderato ♩ = 90

rit. **A tempo**

p *espressivo* *cresc.* *mp* *p* *mp*

6

10

14

Sample Image

19

rit. A tempo

mf *p*

24

p *mf* *rit.* *tr*

A tempo

3 *cresc.* *rit.* *tr* *A tempo* *mf*

rit. *tr* *A tempo* *mp*

Sample
Image

rit. *dim.*

40 **A tempo**

mp

44

mf

48 **rit.** **A tempo**

f *cresc.* *f*

52

f *cresc.* *f*

56

f *cresc.* *f*

Sample
Image

A tempo

61 *mp* 3 *mf* 3

65 *mf* 3 3 3 3 *trm* *mp* 3

rit. **A tempo** 3 3 *trm* *mf* 3

**Sample
Image**

molto rit. 3 3 *trm* 3

