

Johann Strauss, Jr. (1825–1899) was known as the “Waltz King” because of the beauty and popularity of his many waltz compositions. Two of his better-known light operas are “The Gypsy Baron” and “The Bat” (*Die Fledermaus*). *The Beautiful Blue Danube* is probably the world’s most famous waltz.

Blue Danube Waltz

Johann Strauss, Jr.

Allegro

The musical score for the Blue Danube Waltz is presented in four systems of piano accompaniment. The first system is marked *mf* and includes fingerings 1, 3, 5, and 1 3. The subsequent systems continue the melodic and harmonic development of the piece.

Englebert Humperdinck (1854–1921) became instantly famous because of his opera “Hansel and Gretel.” For a while he was an assistant to Richard Wagner, one of the most influential composers of the 19th century.

Wooden Shoe Dance from “Hansel and Gretel”

Engelbert Humperdinck

Moderato

The musical score is written for piano and right hand. It consists of four systems of music. The first system begins with a *mf* dynamic. The second system continues the melody. The third system begins with a *p* dynamic. The fourth system begins with a *f* dynamic and includes a repeat sign. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *f*. The piece is marked *Moderato*.

Play RH one octave higher on the repeat.

Charles Gounod (1818–1893) was descended from a family of artists; his father was a painter. Gounod wrote music mainly for the theater, although he wrote several symphonies. His great success was the opera “Faust.” *Funeral March of a Marionette* was used as the theme to a very popular mystery show on radio and television.

Funeral March of a Marionette

Charles Gounod

Allegretto

The musical score is written for piano and right hand. It is in 6/8 time and has a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked **Allegretto**. The score consists of four systems of music. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features triplet figures in both the right and left hands. The second system includes slurs and accents. The third system continues the melodic and harmonic development. The fourth system concludes with a final cadence and a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, accents, and fingerings.