

Gavotte by Amy Beach

What is a gavotte?

A gavotte is a dance from France in 2 or 4. Gavottes were popular in the Baroque period.

Op. 36 - op means opus or work number. This is the 36th work that Beach wrote. Children's album means that the pieces were written for children to play or for adults to remember what it was like being a child.

What key is this in?

Page one - D minor

Page two - D major with a drone. D major is the parallel major of D minor.

Notation:

Allegro - fast and lively

Metronome marking - 80 to 84 minims per minute

C - common time - 4/4 - simple quadruple - 4 crotchet beats per bar

Tenuto - hold the note for its full value

pp - pianissimo - very soft

Staccato - short and detached

Flat - lower the note a semitone

Sharp - raise the note a semitone

Slur - smooth and well-connected

f - forte - loud

Crescendo - gradually getting louder

Diminuendo - gradually getting softer

mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

p - piano - soft

Sopra - over (RH over LH)

Poco riten. - poco ritenuto - a little immediately held back

A tempo - back to original speed

Ritard. - ritardando - gradually getting slower

Repeat sign - repeat the section