

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Piccolo & Piano

Arr.: Jirka Kadlec

Dennis Armitage

EMR 72327

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Route du Golf 150 • CH-3963 Crans-Montana (Switzerland)

Tel. +41 (0) 27 483 12 00 • Fax +41 (0) 27 483 42 43 • E-Mail : info@reift.ch • www.reift.ch

Dennis Armitage

Deutsch: Ein Musiker der Sonderklasse

Pianist, Komponist, Arrangeur und feinfühligler Kunstmaler – all das ist Dennis Armitage, gebürtiger Brite, aber seit bald 30 Jahren in Zürich lebend.

Als siebenjaehriger Bub erhielt er die ersten Klavierlektionen; mit 15 Jahren trat er in seiner Heimatstadt Leeds schon bei bedeutenden Anlaessen oeffentlich auf und ein Jahr spaeter war Dennis Armitage bereits als Big-Band-Pianist taetig.

Nach seiner militaerischen Dienstzeit im Spiel des englischen Buff-Regiments war er zwei Jahre lang in ganz England auf Tournee. 1951 kam er erstmals in die Schweiz, um in der Band von Hazy Osterwald mitzuwirken. In der Folge begleitete Dennis Armitage Hazy Osterwald auf Tourneen nach Südamerika, Skandinavien, Spanien, Portugal, Afrika, Israel usw., unterbrochen von diversen erfolgreichen Film- und Fernsehproduktionen. Nach 15 Jahren Zusammenarbeit mit Hazy Osterwald verliess er 1966 die Band, um sich als hervorragender Solist und Arrangeur/Komponist zu profilieren, sowie für verschiedene Radio- und Fernsehorchester zu arbeiten. Bei einer dieser TV-Produktionen lernte ihn 1983 der Verleger und Produzent Marc Reift kennen. Seither hat Dennis Armitage mehrere Hunderte von Bearbeitungen und Kompositionen bei "Editions Marc Reift" verlegt. Zahlreiche seiner Kompositionen finden bei Aufführungen ein begeistertes Publikum. Nicht nur als Meister der schwarzweissen Klaviertasten, sondern auch als talentierter Kunstmaler vermag Dennis Armitage zu faszinieren.

Unter dem Pseudonym "Darmi" entstehen feinfühligle Skizzen, Zeichnungen und Bilder in Bleistift und Farbe, in denen sich das Koennen einer jahrzehntenlangen musikalischen Karriere widerspiegeln.

Français: Un musicien exceptionnel

Pianiste, compositeur, arrangeur et peintre sensible – Dennis Armitage représente tout cela. Anglais d'origine, il habite depuis près de 30 ans à Zürich.

Il reçut ses premières leçons de piano à l'âge de 7 ans et, dès l'âge de 15 ans, il se produisit déjà à d'importantes manifestations de sa ville natale Leeds. Un an plus tard, il jouait régulièrement en tant que pianiste de Big-Band.

Dès la fin de son service militaire qu'il absolvait au sein du Régiment anglais Buff, il partit durant deux ans en tournée à travers toute l'Angleterre. Son premier séjour en Suisse date de 1951, afin de participer au Big Band de Hazy Osterwald. Grâce à ce travail, il suivit Hazy Osterwald en tournée en Amérique du Sud, Scandinavie, Espagne, Portugal, Afrique, Israël etc., interrompu par divers productions de radio et de télévision couronnées de succès. Après 15 ans de collaboration avec Hazy Osterwald, il quitta le Big Band afin de travailler en tant que soliste talentueux et arrangeur/compositeur, ainsi que pour différents orchestres de radio et de télévision. A l'occasion d'une de ces productions de télévision, il fit la connaissance du producteur et éditeur Marc Reift. Depuis ce jour, Dennis Armitage a édité plusieurs centaines d'arrangements et de compositions aux "Editions Marc Reift". La plupart de ses œuvres trouvent auprès du public un accueil chaleureux.

Dennis Armitage ne fascine pas seulement en tant que Maître des touches noires-blanches d'un piano, mais aussi en tant que peintre reconnu.

Sous le pseudonyme "Darmi" naissent esquisses, dessins et images émouvants et fascinants, dans lesquels on retrouve un savoir issu d'une carrière musicale longue de plusieurs dizaines d'années.

English: a very special musician

Pianist, composer, arranger and sensitive painter – Dennis Armitage is all these things. Born in England, he has lived for nearly 30 years in Zurich.

He had his first piano lessons when he was 7, was already appearing in public in his home town of Leeds at the age of 15 and was playing regularly as a big band pianist a year later.

During his military service he played in the band of the Buff Regiment and toured England with them for two years. He went to Switzerland in 1951 to work with Hazy Osterwald, whom he subsequently accompanied on tour in South America, Scandinavia, Spain, Portugal, Africa and Israel. Having worked with the Hazy Osterwald band for 15 years, he finally left them in 1966, in order to follow his own path as a soloist, arranger and composer. He has often appeared on radio and television, and it was on a television production that he met the publisher Marc Reift in 1983. Since then Dennis Armitage has published hundreds of compositions and arrangements with the "Marc Reift Editions". Many of these compositions have proved extremely popular with a wide public. However Armitage's talent extend beyond the black and white keys and even beyond music in general; he is also a talented artist.

Under the pseudonym "Darmi", he has produced many fascinating and sensitive sketches, drawings and paintings in pencil and colour, which are inspired by and intimately linked to his musical career.



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Arr.: Jirka Kadlec

Swing ♩ = 96

The musical score is arranged for Piccolo and Piano. It begins with a Piccolo part in the treble clef, which is mostly silent. The Piano part is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and starts with a *mf* dynamic. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number (4, 9, 15) and a section label (A, B). The first system (measures 1-3) features a piano introduction with triplets and chords: D⁶, C⁷, B⁷, E^{b7}, Bm/E⁷, Em/A, D⁶, C⁷, B⁷. The second system (measures 4-8) is labeled 'A' and includes chords: E^{b7}, Bm/E, Em/A, D⁷, C^{#7}, C⁷, B⁷, B^{b7}, A⁷, D^{#7}, D⁶, Em⁷, F^{#m7}, B⁷, Em⁷, Em⁹. The third system (measures 9-14) is labeled 'B' and includes chords: D⁷, D^{#7}, D⁷, G Gmaj⁷, Em⁷, A⁷, Dmaj⁷, Bm⁷, E⁷, A⁷, D, G, D, D⁶, Bm⁷, G⁶, D⁶. The fourth system (measures 15-18) includes chords: D⁶, F^{#m7}, B^{7(b9)}, Em⁷, A⁹, D⁶, Bm⁷, G⁶, D⁶, G⁶, Bm⁷, E⁷, A⁷, D⁶, G⁹. Dynamics include *mf* and triplets are used throughout.

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