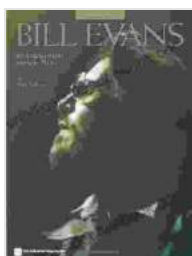


# Bill Evans - 19 Arrangements for Solo Piano: A Journey into the Master's Musical Tapestry

Bill Evans was one of the most influential jazz pianists of the 20th century. His unique style, characterized by its harmonic sophistication, lyrical melodies, and impeccable technique, has left an enduring legacy in the world of music. Evans' arrangements for solo piano are particularly noteworthy, showcasing his ability to transform familiar melodies into intricate and moving works of art. One of the most celebrated collections of these arrangements is his 1963 album, "19 Arrangements for Solo Piano."

"19 Arrangements for Solo Piano" was recorded by Evans in January 1963 at the Nola Penthouse Sound Studios in New York City. The album features a diverse selection of compositions, ranging from Broadway show tunes to film scores to classical pieces. Evans arranged each piece with his characteristic sensitivity and attention to detail, creating a cohesive and captivating listening experience.

The tracklist includes:



## Bill Evans - 19 Arrangements for Solo Piano by Hal Leonard

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2188 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 80 pages

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- "My Foolish Heart" (Victor Young)
- "Some Other Time" (Leonard Bernstein, Betty Comden, and Adolph Green)
- "Very Early" (Bill Evans)
- "Waltz for Debby" (Bill Evans)
- "Time Remembered" (Bill Evans)
- "Interplay" (Bill Evans)
- "Milestones" (Miles Davis)
- "Blue in Green" (Miles Davis)
- "All or Nothing at All" (Arthur Altman and Jack Lawrence)
- "Someday My Prince Will Come" (Frank Churchill and Larry Morey)
- "Theme from MASH" (Johnny Mandel)
- "St. Thomas" (Sonny Rollins)
- "Alice in Wonderland" (Sammy Fain and Bob Hilliard)
- "Turn Out the Stars" (Bill Evans)
- "My Romance" (Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart)
- "Autumn Leaves" (Joseph Kosma and Johnny Mercer)
- "Peri's Scope" (Bill Evans)
- "The Boy Next Door" (Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane)

Evans' arrangements for solo piano are not simply transcriptions of existing melodies. He approached each piece with a deep understanding of its harmonic structure and melodic contour, creating new and imaginative interpretations that often surpassed the originals. Evans' arrangements frequently employ complex chord voicings, subtle rhythmic variations, and unexpected melodic embellishments, adding depth and nuance to the music.

In his liner notes for the album, Evans explained his approach to arranging: "The primary concern in arranging is essentially to retain the melodic values of the original while translating it into a pianistic language that is simultaneously valid and stimulating."

"19 Arrangements for Solo Piano" is a treasure trove of musical gems, but a few tracks stand out as particularly exceptional.

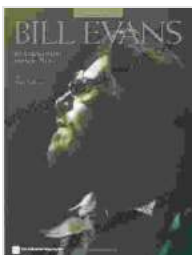
- **"My Foolish Heart"** is a classic ballad that Evans transforms into a delicate and moving solo piano piece. His arrangement captures the bittersweet emotion of the song, with its gentle arpeggios and subtle melodic variations.
- **"Someday My Prince Will Come"** is a song from the Disney animated film "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Evans' arrangement is a beautiful and haunting interpretation, with its sparse chords and ethereal melody.
- **"St. Thomas"** is a calypso-flavored composition by Sonny Rollins. Evans' arrangement is a lively and infectious piece that showcases his rhythmic brilliance.

- **"Peri's Scope"** is an original composition by Evans that is a tour de force of harmonic exploration. The piece features dense chord voicings and complex rhythmic patterns, yet it retains a melodic coherence and emotional intensity.

"19 Arrangements for Solo Piano" was a critical and commercial success upon its release. The album has been praised by critics for its beauty, sophistication, and technical brilliance. It has also been a major influence on generations of jazz pianists, who have been inspired by Evans' creative approach to arranging.

The album continues to be a beloved classic of jazz music and a testament to the enduring legacy of Bill Evans. It is a must-listen for any fan of jazz piano or for anyone interested in the art of arranging.

Bill Evans' "19 Arrangements for Solo Piano" is a masterpiece of jazz piano that showcases his unique musical genius. Evans' arrangements are not only technically proficient but also deeply expressive, transforming familiar melodies into works of art. The album is a testament to his boundless creativity and his profound understanding of music. It is a must-have for any jazz collection and a timeless work that will continue to inspire and enchant listeners for generations to come.



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