

Lemon Black Tea

for Cello and Piano

Aaron Gomez



www.aarongomezmusic.com

Lemon Black Tea

Performance time: approx. 5:00

Program Notes

The history of tea culture in Taiwan can be traced back to the 18th century when Chinese tea farmers brought bushes to Taiwan hoping to expand tea production. Today, Taiwanese teas are highly regarded worldwide. In Taiwan, one cannot walk down any street without passing multiple tea shops offering a variety of teas like milk teas, bubble teas, fruit teas, flavored teas, and traditional teas. On any given day, one will find hundreds of people carrying tea with them in their drink carriers or see a group of friends chit-chatting away enjoying a cold tea on a hot summer day.

Since moving to Taiwan, I have enjoyed many teas of all types. One of my favorites is **檸檬紅茶** (Níngméng hóngchá), lemon black tea. Taiwan can get quite hot during the spring and summer. I often order an iced lemon black tea to keep me cool while out and about.

Taipei has a beautiful and historic seaside district called **淡水** (Dànshuǐ). It is filled with traditional restaurants, markets, food stalls, and old buildings telling the history of Taiwan. Once a month, I make the trip to **淡水** to enjoy the beautiful scenery. Every time I go, I enjoy a lemon black tea, or **檸檬紅茶**, while sitting at the park, watching the sunset and enjoying music by a street performer or two.

Lemon Black Tea was inspired by the trips taken to **淡水**. It is a short narrative interpreting the journey to **淡水** on the MRT (Mass Rapid Transit), and the arrival to the seaside station. The first section of the piece depicts the journey. The piano often contains quick and tricky passages that emulate the different sounds on the MRT like the bells and announcements sounded at every station. You can also hear the clacking of the tracks and the crowds of people boarding or deboarding the train. The cello mostly plays long and smooth passages expressing the overall calm and scenic trip to the destination. Viewing the mountains and river through the windows and watching city whisp by. The second part of the piece represents the walk through **淡水** and the traditional surroundings. A folk-tune-like melody is introduced in this section to characterize the historic and traditional surroundings. Much like the people and the area, it is lively and upbeat. The ending is slow and reminiscent of the sunset by the seaside, and the delicious lemon black tea.

Lemon Black Tea

Score

Aaron Gomez

Exciting ♩ = 120

Violoncello

Pizz. *f*

arco

Pizz.

Piano

mf

Vc.

arco

fp *f*

Pno

Vc.

fp

Pno

The score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120 beats per minute. It consists of three systems. The first system features a Violoncello part starting with a forte (f) pizzicato chord, followed by a melodic line with an arco section and ending with a pizzicato note. The Piano part provides a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The second system introduces a Violin (Vc.) part with a fortissimo (fp) arco line, featuring a triplet of eighth notes. The Piano part continues with a similar rhythmic pattern. The third system continues the Violin part with a fortissimo (fp) arco line and a final melodic flourish. The Piano part maintains its accompaniment throughout.

7

Vc.

Pno

f

9

Vc.

Pno

p

mp

A

12

Vc.

Pno

mf

15

Vc.

Pno

f

mf

18

Vc.

Pno

mf

mp

21

Vc.

Pno

24

Vc.

Pno

f

mf

27

Vc.

Pno

30 **B**

Vc. *pp*

Pno *mp*

33

Vc. *f* *pp sub.*

Pno *f* *mp*

36

Vc. *mf* *p*

Pno *f* *p*

39

Vc. *mf*

Pno

42

Vc.

Pno

f

45

Vc.

Pno

mf

ff

48

Vc.

Pno

mf

f

mp

f

52

Vc.

Pno

mf

p

mp

mf

55

Vc.

Pno

mp

mf

mp fsub.

mp

58

Vc.

Pno

f

ff

mp

61

Vc.

Pno

pp

63

Vc.

Pno

pp

C

65

Vc. *mp*

Pno

67

Vc. *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *mp*

Pno

69

Vc.

Pno

71

Vc. *n* *mf* *n*

Pno

74

Vc. *n* *mf* *n* *n*

Pno

77

Vc. *mf* *n*

Pno

81

Vc. *pp* *n* *f* *f* *pizz.*

Pno *pp* *mf*

D A little relaxed ♩ = 112

85

Vc.

Pno

89 arco **E** *p* *mf*

Vc.

Pno

95

102 take your time a tempo *f* *ppp* *f* *mf* *f*

Vc.

Pno

108 *f* *mf*

Vc.

Pno

112

Vc. *f*

Pno *mf*

116

Vc.

Pno

120

Vc.

Pno *mf*

124

Vc. *f* pizz.

Pno *mp* *f*

127

Vc.

Pno

130

Vc.

Pno

ff

arco

133

Vc.

Pno

p

mp

137

Vc.

Pno

Winding Down ♩ = 76

p

pp

pp

142

Vc.

Pno

146

Vc.

Pno

p

151

Vc.

Pno

pp

pizz.

pp

Violoncello

Lemon Black Tea

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Exciting ♩ = 120

f pizz. arco *fp* *f*

4 *fp* *f*

8 **A** *p*

12 *mf* *f*

20 *mf*

25 *f*

30 **B** *pp*

33 *f* *pp sub.*

36

39

44

47

52

55

59

67

71

81 **D** A little relaxed ♩ = 112 pizz. *pp* > *n* *f* *f*

87 **E** arco

92 *p* *mf*

100 take your time a tempo *f* *ppp* *f* *mf*

107 *f*

114 **F** *f*

121 *mf* pizz. *f*

126 *ff*

130 arco

133 *p*

G Winding Down ♩ = 76

138

p **2** *p*

Musical staff 138-149: Bass clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 138-149. Dynamics: *p* (measures 138-141), **2** (measure 142), *p* (measures 143-149). Includes slurs, accents, and a fermata.

150

pp **1** pizz. *pp*

Musical staff 150-154: Bass clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 150-154. Dynamics: *pp* (measures 150-153), **1** (measure 154), pizz. (measure 155), *pp* (measures 156-159). Includes slurs, accents, and a fermata.