

GRADE 1 PIECE –LIST C

C5 Mike Mower- *Straight to the Point* from *'The Good Tempered Oboe'* –*Itchy Fingers Publications.*

A study with a nice 'jazzy' feel.

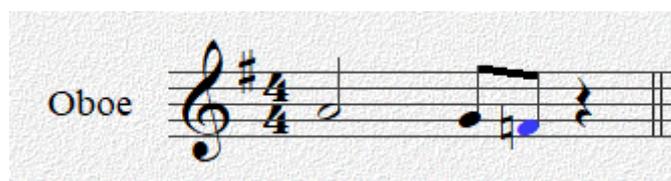
As the name suggests, the study is about giving each note attack using the tongue create really short (staccato) notes- like a point. The study is looking helping you to develop good articulation (tonguing and slurring).

Bar 13 would make an excellent warm up to practise your staccato before you try the rest of the piece.

Staccato warmup



From the beginning of the piece, the first few bars are quite straightforward. However, watch out for the rhythm in bar 4. It's easy to fall into the trap that it's the same as bar 2, but the 2 beat note at the beginning of the bar deliberately gives it a very different feel.



As the piece continues you will see that not all the notes are staccato. The line above the C sharp in bar 6 means that the note is long which gives the music a 'groovy' feel.

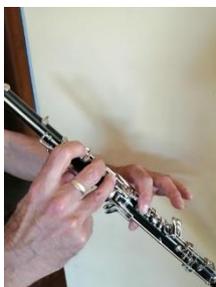


Try and spot where the other notes are with the line above them and perhaps highlight them in colour.

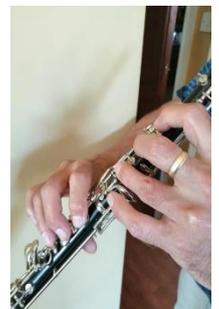
It's not only the staccato notes that give interest. This study like to play around with naturals and sharps (accidentals). For example F natural to F sharp in bar 8.



Just make sure that you are playing the right fingering for F.
F natural is first with the 'banana' key -



followed by the F sharp.

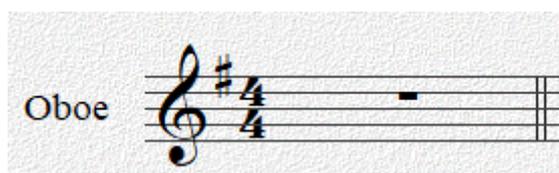


Likewise, the C and C sharp in bar 14.



C sharp fingering has the left hand little finger on the middle key.

One of the difficulties with the study is that there's no piano part to help keep in time. Be very careful that you give the bar rest at bar 7 the full four counts. It's very easy to cut it short.



1 2 3 4

Finally, there's lots of dynamics to put into this piece which would give it a lot of colour and interest.

mf mezzo piano moderately loud

f forte loud

p piano quiet

It's a great piece to play with lots of detail and interest. Just don't rush it!