She Dances Naked Under Palm Trees

for solo piano

Theresa Wong
2019 © The Orange Route
No Images (1926)
by William Waring Cuney

She does not know
her beauty,
She thinks her brown body
has no glory.

If she could dance
naked
under palm trees
and see her image in the river,
she would know.

But there are no palm trees
on the street,
and dish water gives back
no images.

The melody in the first section of this piece is quoted from
Nina Simone's setting of this poem, Images (1964).
Performance Notes

**Empty diamond headed notes** are to be pressed silently and captured with the sostenuto pedal.

LF = left foot, RF = Right foot

**Solid diamond headed notes** are to be played as normal, and captured with the sostenuto pedal.

**Solid glissando lines** are played on black keys, **dotted glissando lines** are played on white keys. (Except glissandi in measures 55 and 64, which are played on white keys.) **L** and **R** indicate which hand is to play the glissando.

**Start and end glissandi pitches** in measures 10-21, 55 and 64 are approximations and don’t need to be played precisely.
Measures 46-48:
Chord clusters are articulated in the following way:

**An upward arrow next to a solid black bar** indicates a glissando 'smudging' on black keys of all notes under the reach of one's forearm, with the elbow aiming for the top note indicated. The smudge is played in the timing of a grace note.

**An upward arrow next to a solid white bar** indicates a smudge on white keys.

**A downward roll next to a solid black bar** indicates a rolled chord cluster on black keys. It is played by aiming for the top note with one's elbow and laying down the forearm in a gradual motion, thus rolling the cluster from high to low pitch.

**A downward roll next to a solid white bar** indicates a rolled chord cluster on white keys.

Measures 53 & 54:

**Tremelo shakes:** these notes are to be played rapidly with pitches in any succession, resembling shaking bells.

**Left arm chord clusters:** the left forearm is rocked back and forth, so that the first and third clusters are played with the lower forearm (LF), i.e. elbow end, and the second and fourth clusters are played with the upper forearm (UF), i.e. wrist end, while the hand makes a fist. Notated pitches are approximations played while the arm rocks back and forth.
freely, singing

She Dances Naked Under Palm Trees
for Sarah Cahill

Theresa Wong

\[ \text{\( \text{Clef} = \text{Bass} \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Tempo} = 58 \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Glissando} \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{ppp} \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Sostenuto} \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Hold each key down} \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Tempo} = 76 \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Glissando} \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Tempo} = 58 \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Glissando} \)} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{Tempo} = 76 \)} \]
\( \textit{in a regal manner} \)

\[ \text{\( \text{\textbackslash{mf}} \)}} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{\textbackslash{mf}} \)}} \]

\[ \text{\( \text{\textbackslash{mf}} \)}} \]
(non-slurred notes are detaché)