

# International Piano SHEET MUSIC

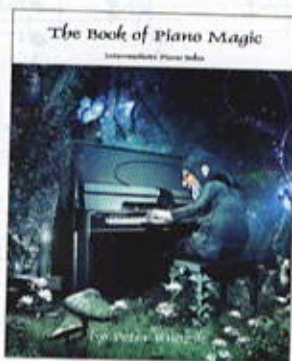
## 'An Ogre and a Mermaid' and 'A Troll's Rag' from *The Book of Piano Magic* by Peter Rudzik

### About the music

Canadian composer Peter Rudzik moved to Calgary, Canada, from his native Poland in 1990. Once settled, he quickly established one of the city's high-profile piano studios. His compositional urge surfaced about 10 years later when, with an American lyricist Allan Provost, he co-wrote the musical comedy *You Can't Live in L.A. Without A Car*. The past two years have seen a narrowing of Rudzik's endeavours with a focus on solo piano works aimed at intermediate to advanced students. He has already published five imaginative collections of such pieces and recently became a member of the eclectic and vibrant group of composers who collectively publish as 'Red Leaf Pianoworks'.

*The Book of Piano Magic* is Rudzik's fifth and most recent publication. With titles in it such as 'Dancing Witch', 'Carefree Wizard' and 'Two Wands, Three Spells', it clearly fulfils his desire to write a set of pieces that tap into the current adolescent fascination with the mystical, the magical and the fantastically improbable. 'An Ogre and a Mermaid' and 'A Troll's Rag' are both from this collection.

'An Ogre and a Mermaid' contrasts the gruff, clumsy gait of a troll with the alluring, ephemeral beckonings of a mermaid. Here, the performer needs to develop a strong, slightly comical rhythmic bite to portray the troll effectively; contrasting



with this is the shimmering, carefully voiced lyricism for the mermaid.

'A Troll's Rag' surprisingly bears the influence of Debussy, where Rudzik emulates Debussy's tongue-in-cheek way of playing with his materials and expectations. Here, the traditional harmonic boundaries and rhythmic predictability of ragtime are teased with slippery, not-quite-definable harmonies, and cloying rhythmic dalliances. Rudzik explains: 'I wrote it as a really fun piece for kids'.

Peter is enthusiastic about how other pianists play his pieces. He is happy to include a link to all YouTube performances of his pieces on his website, so do keep him informed!

For more details and to purchase Peter Rudzik's scores visit [www.peterrudzik.com](http://www.peterrudzik.com)

Peter Rudzik

