

B E E T H O V E N

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

Für Elise (ADAPTATION)

This *Bagatelle* in A minor was probably written in 1810, and then included with other works in a book of *Albumblätter*. It would appear that the autograph, now lost, did not carry the title 'Für Elise', but rather "Für Thérèse", since the piece was written for the young Thérèse Malfatti, whom Beethoven had hoped to marry at the beginning of that same year. This beautiful, simple musical offering, whose elegiac charm has made it universally popular, subtly presages Romanticism and

some of Chopin's works. The notes of this piece in triple time fit comfortably into the five-finger position; the melody starts on the upbeat (on the last beat of a measure – this is called an anacrusis). You should pay attention to the evenness of the melody, which must be expressive and well outlined. The accompaniment – the first three quavers in the left hand – should be lighter, and that's why it is worth practising the hands independently.

Poco moto M.M. ♩ = 116–120

p *legato*

mf *p*

rit. *pp*

*) Pedal ad lib.