

John Oliver

Sound and Motion  
Studies

Book One  
for Piano

[johnolivermusic.com](http://johnolivermusic.com)

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# Sound and Motion Studies

## Book One

for Piano  
(2007)

**Duration:** 5:10

### **Program Note**

These studies are designed for the beginning and intermediate piano student with the goal of developing their sense of sonority and rhythm. Various techniques are explored that prepare the student for the contemporary piano literature. The topics covered include: modal melodies and harmonic progressions, syncopated rhythms, resonance effects, plucking the string, and preparing one or two strings by inserting a coin. In this way, the student is exposed to very simple renditions of ideas that are more fully developed in the 20th and 21st century repertoire. The student will develop a heightened appreciation of rhythm and sound colour possibilities of the piano.

#### **Book One:**

Wind in the Bells pieces develop staccato & listening to overtones

Syncopation Studies develop syncopation & sense of flexible time and line.

# Wind in the Bells 1

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Play at any speed

Listen to the whistling harmonics

Piano

*ff*

Depress these keys silently

6

*8va*  
2

*mp*

Fine

10

Listen to the whistling harmonics

*ff*

14

*8va*  
1

*mp*

D.C. al fine

# Syncopation Study 1

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♩ = 72

The musical score consists of five systems of piano accompaniment. Each system is written for a grand piano with a treble and bass clef. The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 72. The music features a syncopated melody in the treble clef and a steady accompaniment in the bass clef. The accompaniment consists of a series of chords and dyads, often with a syncopated bass line. The melody is composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, often with syncopation. The score ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

*rit.* - - - - -

# Wind in the Bells 2

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Play at any speed

Depress these keys silently

Listen to the whistling harmonics

*ff* *mp*

*ff*

*mp*

*ff* *mp*