

John Oliver

Emperor Under Glass

for piano

(2009)

Duration: 2:20

Program Note

I wrote Emperor Under Glass in a single day on Monday December 7, 2009 as a response to an open invitation from Australia's Aurora Festival to create a new work for solo piano on the theme of "Momentary Pleasures." Beethoven's Emperor concerto played every week on our turntable while I was growing up. I loved the opening energetic arpeggios and was always disappointed when the main theme came in. Thus, these arpeggios were a momentary pleasure that I wished could go on forever. Now I understand it is the resonance to which I was attracted, and which quietly becomes the subject in my short piece.

johnolivermusic.com

for the 2010 Aurora Festival
Emperor under Glass

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Allegro ♩ = 128

ff

Ped.

3

(8) ♩ = 132 **rall.** ♩ = 100 ♩ = 128

ff *f*

tr

5

rall. **rit.** ♩ = 60 ♩ = 100

ff

Ped.

10

ff *fff* *f*

Ped.

14

rall. **A Tempo**

ff *fff* *f*

Ped.

2
19 *accel.* $\text{♩} = 120$ *A Tempo*

ff *f* *fff*

Ped.

22 *accel.* $\text{♩} = 120$ *accel.* $\text{♩} = 136$ *8va*

ff

Ped.

25 $\text{♩} = 90$ $\text{♩} = 69$

mf *mp*

Ped.

32 $\text{♩} = 120$

ff

Ped.

33 $\text{♩} = 136$ *rall.* $\text{♩} = 90$ *molto rall.*

mf *p*

Ped.

