Mighty Rockies

For Piano Solo

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This piece is the start of a student-leveled collection of early intermediate repertoire, inspired by the wonderful students in my studio who always ask when I will compose music for them. Inspired by the natural beauty of our province, each piece in the collection captures part of the Alberta landscape through sound. At the same time, the collection serves as a pedagogical reference for teachers as each piece is a type of technical etude.

This piece, "Mighty Rockies", explores the majestic nature of our mountainous homeland. Pedagogically, it teaches the student how to execute large leaps with the arms, and how to create a big, singing tone with arm weight. Finally, it is an exercise in reading and navigating the full range of the piano with the mix of *octava* signs and ledger line-notes.

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